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Health Statistics Quarterly

- Trends in suicide by marital status in England and Wales, 1982–2005
- Assessing quality of NHS Numbers for Babies data and providing gestational age statistics
- Reports:
  Health expectancies in the UK, 2004
  Deaths involving Clostridium difficile, England and Wales, 1999 and 2001–2006
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- Annual Update:
  Congenital anomaly notifications, 2006, England and Wales

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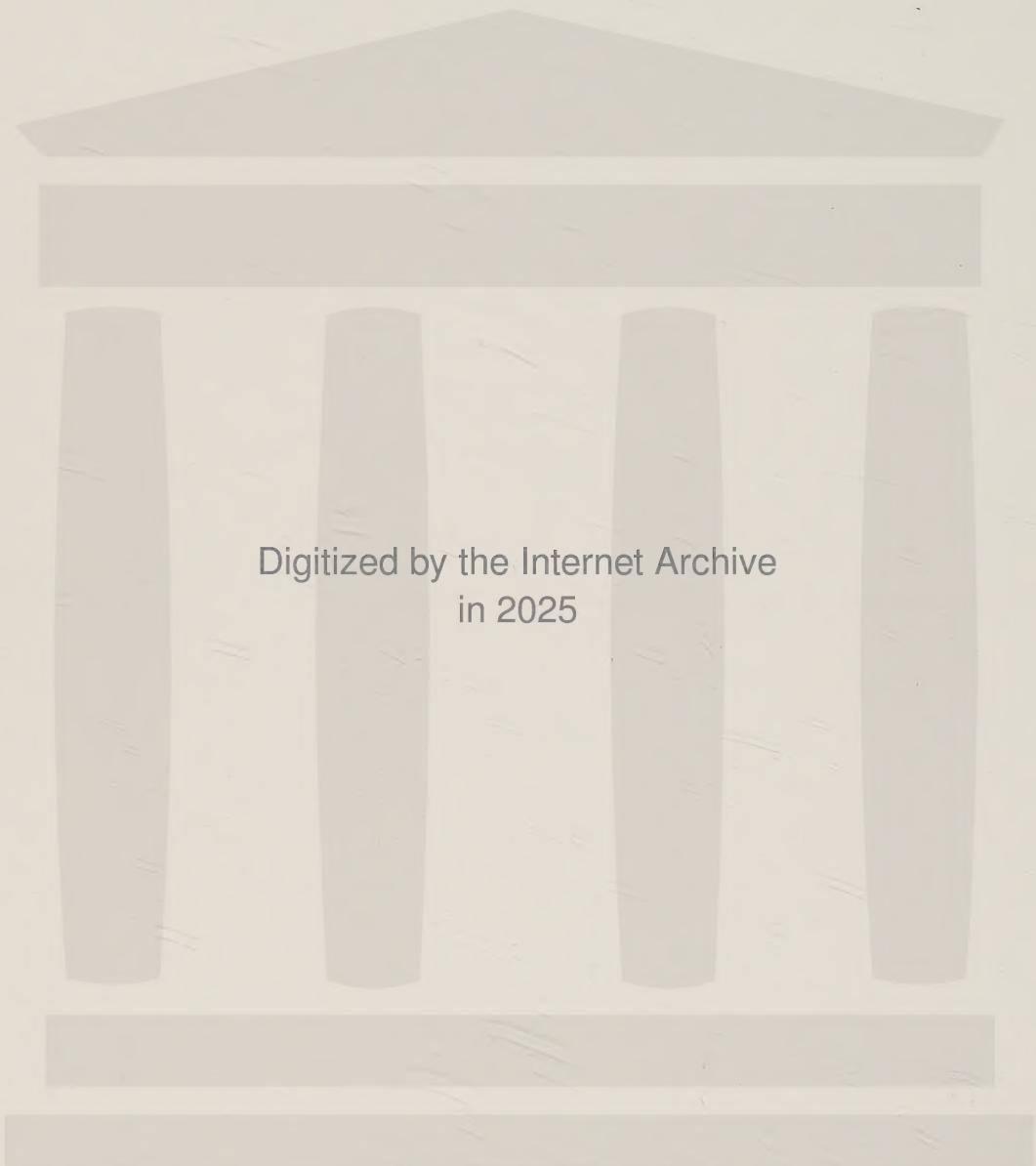

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The Office for National Statistics (ONS) is the Government Agency responsible for compiling, analysing and disseminating many of the United Kingdom's economic, social and demographic statistics, including the retail prices index, trade figures and labour market data, as well as the periodic census of the population and health statistics. It is also the agency that administers the statutory registration of births, marriages and deaths in England and Wales. The Director of ONS is also the National Statistician and the Registrar General for England and Wales.

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Health Statistics Quarterly and *Population Trends* are journals of the Office for National Statistics. Each is published four times a year in February, May, August and November and March, June, September and December, respectively. In addition to bringing together articles on a wide range of population and health topics, *Health Statistics Quarterly* and *Population Trends* contain regular series of tables on a wide range of subjects for which ONS is responsible, including the most recently available statistics.

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Health Statistics Quarterly and *Population Trends* can be viewed or downloaded as Adobe Acrobat PDF files from the National Statistics website www.statistics.gov.uk/products/p6725.asp *(Health Statistics Quarterly) or* www.statistics.gov.uk/products/p6303.asp *(Population Trends).*

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Articles: 5,000 words max.

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in brief

Alcohol-related deaths – latest UK figures for 2006

Latest figures on alcohol-related death rates in the UK in 2006 were released on 25 January 2008. Rates in the UK continued to increase, rising from 12.9 deaths per 100,000 population in 2005 to 13.4 in 2006. Rates almost doubled from 6.9 per 100,000 in 1991. The number of alcohol-related deaths more than doubled from 4,144 in 1991 to 8,758 in 2006.

In 2006 the male death rate (18.3 deaths per 100,000 population) was more than twice the rate for females (8.8 deaths per 100,000) and males accounted for two thirds of the total number of deaths.

For men, the death rates in all age groups increased between 1991 and 2006. The biggest increase was for men aged 35–54. Rates in this age group more than doubled, from 13.4 to 31.1 deaths per 100,000 over the period. However, the highest rates in each year were for men aged 55–74.

Death rates by age group for females were consistently lower than rates for males; however trends showed a broadly similar pattern by age. The death rate for women aged 35–54 doubled between 1991 and 2006, from 7.2 to 14.8 per 100,000 population, a larger increase than the rate for women in any other age group. As for men, the highest rates in each year were for the 55–74 age group.

Between 2005 and 2006, for both sexes, rates remained the same for those aged 15–34 and increased for those aged 35–54 and 55–74. There were small falls in the rates for those aged over 75 – by 8 per cent for men and 6 per cent for women.

The data for alcohol-related deaths are available on the National Statistics website at: www.statistics.gov.uk/cci/nugget.asp?id=1091

Suicides – latest UK figures for 2006

Latest figures on adult suicide rates in the UK in 2006 were released on 25 January 2008. Between 2005 and 2006, rates fell slightly for both sexes - from 17.5 to 17.4 suicides per 100,000 population for men, and from 5.8 to 5.3 for women.

The suicide rate in men aged 15 and over showed a downward trend during the 1990s until a sharp increase in 1998. Since this peak, the rate has again fallen but has been steadying in recent years. Rates in women were lower than those seen in men throughout 1991 to 2006, and have shown an overall decline. The rates in 2006 for both men and women were the lowest across the period.

In 2006, there were 5,554 suicides in adults aged 15 and over in the UK, which represented almost 1 per cent of the total of all deaths at ages 15 and over. Three-quarters of these suicides were among men and this division between the sexes was broadly similar throughout the period 1991 to 2006.

In the early 1990s, the highest UK suicide rates were in men aged 75 and over. This age group, however, had the biggest percentage decrease in rates between 1991–2006. Since 1997, the highest rates have been in the 15–44 age group, although in 2006 the rate in men aged 45–74 was only slightly lower.

This pattern was not the same in women, as those aged 15–44 had the lowest suicide rates throughout 1991–2006. Rates for women aged 75 and over had the largest percentage decrease during this period, however, and in 2006 their suicide rate was half that seen in 1991, and only slightly higher than for those aged 15–44. For women, the highest suicide rates in 2006 were in those aged 45–74.

The data for suicides are available on the National Statistics website at: www.statistics.gov.uk/cci/nugget.asp?id=1092

Effects of problems with birth and death registration systems on ONS statistical outputs

As described in the previous editions of *Health Statistics Quarterly*, problems with the introduction of the new registration on line

system (RON) at register offices in England and Wales led to the temporary suspension of some ONS outputs that rely on the completeness of births and deaths registered between the end of March and the beginning of May 2007. Statistical quality assurance and compilation processes have been completed for the March and June quarters 2007 for provisional outputs, and are continuing for the September quarter 2007 data.

How this affects figures in *Health Statistics Quarterly*

Provisional births, deaths and childhood mortality figures for the quarter ending June 2007 for England and Wales, due in the Autumn 2007 edition of *Health Statistics Quarterly* are released in this edition.

The report 'Conceptions in England and Wales 2006' usually published in the Spring edition will appear in the Summer edition. Provisional annual figures for 2006 conceptions along with updated quarterly figures for 2006 are available on the National Statistics website at: www.statistics.gov.uk/statbase/product.asp?vlnk=15055

Public Service Productivity: Health Care

The Office for National Statistics released its third Public Service Productivity: Health Care article on 29 January 2008. It sets out changes in health care inputs, output and productivity from 1995 to 2006, using information on a wide range of types of health care and resources used. Measures of change in the quality of health care are included where available, from 2001 to 2005.

Key points

The quantity of publicly-funded health care output (including hospital inpatient and outpatient treatment, GP and practice nurse appointments and prescribed drugs) rose by 3.8 per cent a year from 1995 to 2006. By 2006, output was some 50 per cent higher than in 1995, before allowance for quality change. But since inputs (including NHS staff and purchases of medical goods and services) grew still faster and productivity is defined to be the ratio of change in output to change in inputs, productivity fell by an average 1 per cent a year.

Three time periods are distinguished:

- from 1995 to 2001 productivity was stable, with growth in the quantity of health care (quality adjustments are not available) matching growth in inputs
- from 2001 to 2005 productivity fell, as high growth in health care was lower than even higher growth in inputs. Even with the available adjustments for quality change in output, productivity fell by 2.0 per cent a year, on average, between 2001 and 2005. Without quality adjustment for output, productivity over the same period would have fallen by 2.5 per cent a year on average
- from 2005 to 2006 productivity fell less quickly, by 0.2 per cent. Quality adjustments are not yet available

The article is available on the National Statistics website at: www.statistics.gov.uk/about/data/methodology/specific/PublicSector/output/health.asp

Population Estimates for Primary Care Organisations, 2002 to 2006

Mid-2002 to mid-2006 experimental population estimates for Primary Care Organisations (PCOs aka PCTs) in England were published on 23 October 2007. The estimates release is available on the National Statistics website at: www.statistics.gov.uk/statbase/explorer.asp?CTG=3&SL=4819&D=5018&DCT=32&DT=32#5018

The figures incorporate significant improvements to the estimation of the international migration component. A full report on the estimates appears in *Population Trends* 130. It is available on the National Statistics website at: www.statistics.gov.uk/statbase/Product.asp?vlnk=6303

These estimates have been derived using a 'Postcode Best Fit' methodology, which in essence is an apportionment method. This means it apportions population estimates from the smallest geography for which ONS regularly publishes estimates – Lower Layer Super Output Areas, to unit postcode level based on age and sex information from patient register postcode level data. Further information is available on the National Statistics website at: www.statistics.gov.uk/about/methodology_by_theme/sape/default.asp

Estimates for 2006 are provisional, final estimates will become available when mid-2006 small area population figures are published.

The estimates show that the largest PCO in 2006 is Hampshire PCT with a population of 1,265,900; the smallest is Hartlepool with 91,100 people. The fastest-growing PCO is Camden PCT which has grown by just over 10 per cent between 2002 and 2006 to 227,500, whereas Newham PCTs population has fallen by two per cent to 248,400. The area with the largest proportion of older residents is Dorset PCT with 28 per cent of the population of state retirement age (60 for females and 65 for males) or over. Heart of Birmingham PCT has the largest proportion of children with nearly 25 per cent of its population being aged under 16.

Updated health area classification

Due to substantial boundary changes to Primary Care Organisations in England in 2006, an updated health area classification was published on 28 September 2007. These classifications are commonly used in the public and commercial sectors to target areas which have the same characteristics, or to compare differences between areas in the same grouping.

Area classifications bring together geographical areas according to key characteristics common to the population in that grouping. These groupings are called clusters, and this area classification is derived using data from the 2001 Census. Area classifications for the UK for Local Authorities (LAs), wards, output areas and health areas were created following the Census. Health areas included Primary Care Organisations (PCOs) in England, Local Health Boards in Wales, Health Board Areas in Scotland and Health and Social Services Boards in Northern Ireland.

Primary Care Organisations in England were restructured, along with their area boundaries, in October 2006 by the Department of Health with a view to improving the alignment of the borders between PCOs and LAs. As a result the number of PCOs was reduced from 304 to 152, and an updated health area classification was published to reflect these changes (as shown in Figure 1).

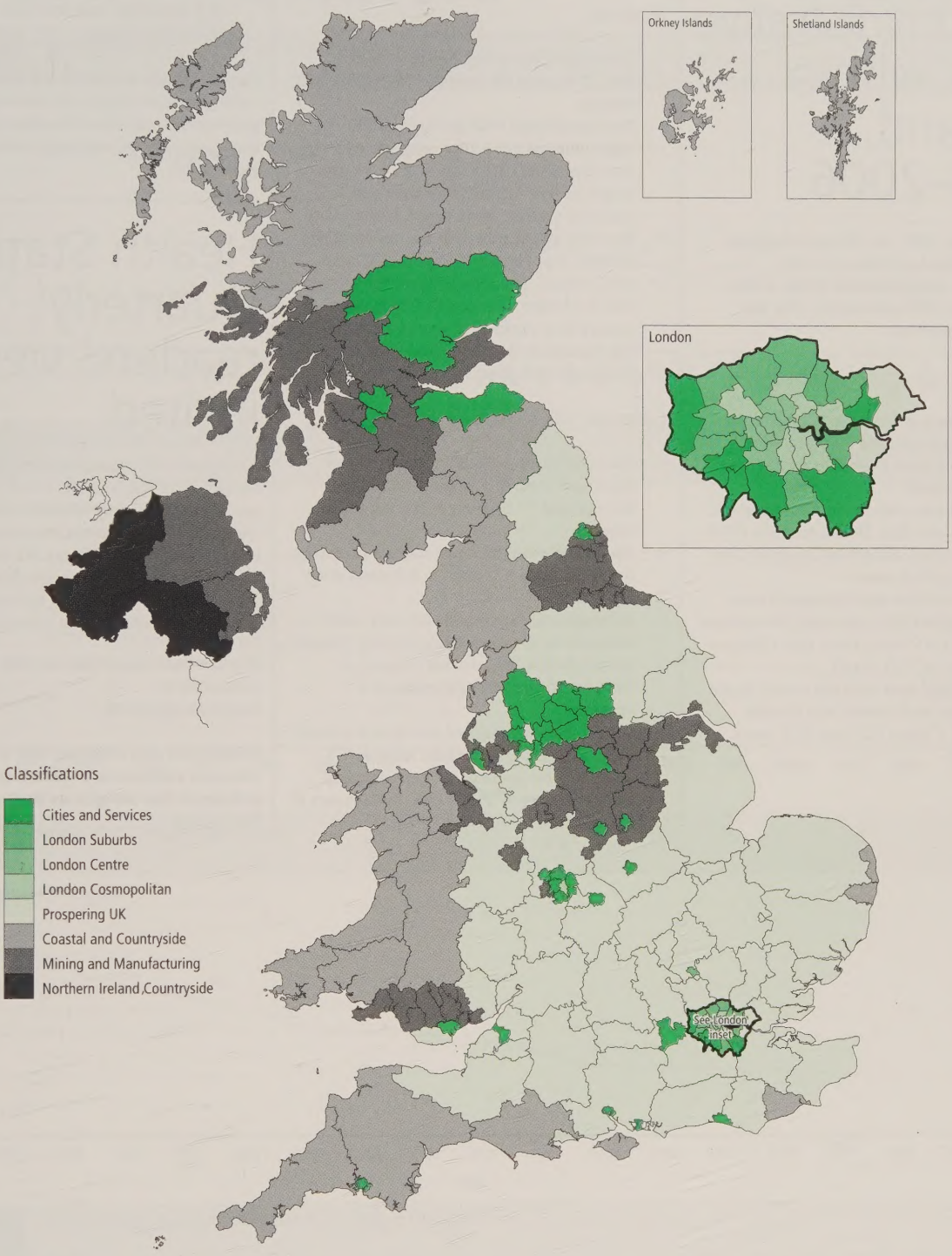
The same method was adopted in this exercise for the restructured set of PCO boundaries as for their predecessors in order to ensure consistency. This retained the similarity between health areas in England and the rest of the UK, and between health areas and LAs.

In all the area classifications there are three layers of clusters: supergroup, group and subgroup. The variables chosen for the health area classification were the same as for the LA classification and fall under the main headings:

- Demographic
- Household composition
- Housing
- Socio-economic
- Employment
- Industry sector

All area classifications, including this health area, along with interactive maps, can be found on the National Statistics website at: www.statistics.gov.uk/about/methodology_by_theme/area_classification

Figure 1 NS 2001 Area Classification for Health Areas: Supergroup



Source: Office for National Statistics

Life Expectancy for Administrative Areas within Scotland, 2004–2006

On 4 September 2007, the General Register Office for Scotland published its Life Expectancy for Administrative Areas within Scotland, 2004–2006 publication. The key points of this report are:

At birth:

- life expectancy at birth for Scotland was 74.6 years for men and 79.6 years for women. This varied considerably between areas in Scotland
- the council area with the highest male life expectancy was East Dunbartonshire (78.0 years); 7.5 years more than Glasgow City, the lowest at 70.5 years
- East Renfrewshire was the council area with the highest life expectancy for women (81.9 years), 4.9 years more than Glasgow City (lowest at 77.0 years)
- the NHS board area with the lowest figure for both men and women was Greater Glasgow & Clyde (72.5 and 78.2 years respectively
- the highest figures were for Shetland NHS board area: men (76.6 years) and women (81.5 years)

At age 65:

- life expectancy at age 65 for Scotland was 15.9 years for men and 18.6 years for women
- the council area with the highest life expectancy at age 65 for men and women was Shetland (18.0 years and 20.5 years respectively), 4.2 years for men and 3.2 years for women more than Glasgow City
- the NHS board area with the lowest figure for men was Greater Glasgow & Clyde (14.7 years). The lowest figure for women was in Greater Glasgow & Clyde and Lanarkshire (both 17.9 years). Shetland had the highest for both men and women (18.0 years and 20.5 years respectively)

Compared with 10 years ago in 1994–1996:

- life expectancy at birth for Scotland has improved from 72.1 years to 74.6 years for men and 77.8 years to 79.6 years for women
- the gap between men and women is closing, dropping from 5.7 years to 5.0 years over the period
- although some areas had only very small increases in life expectancy over the 10-year period, there were no areas (council or NHS board area) that experienced a decrease
- the gap between highest and lowest council areas for men remained the same at 7.5 years but, for women, the gap increased from 4.4 years in 1994–1996 to 4.9 years in 2004–2006
- the biggest rise in life expectancy for men was in Shetland with 4.9 years and East Dunbartonshire (2.7 years) for women
- the smallest rise was in Clackmannanshire (0.2 years) for men and East Ayrshire (0.7 years) for women

Further details may be found at: www.gro-scotland.gov.uk/statistics/publications-and-data/life-expectancy/life-expectancy-for-administrative-areas-2004-2006/index.html

Health Statistics Quarterly: readers' views invited

As part of ONS's continual drive to maintain the quality of this journal, we are asking our readership if they would let us have any comments and suggestions to ensure that it remains fresh and pertinent. We welcome suggestions as to future scope and direction, while always endeavouring to maintain the high standards expected by our valued readership.

If you would like to give us your views, please contact us at: hsq@ons.gsi.gov.uk.

Readers are also reminded that we always welcome submission of papers from external colleagues that are appropriate to the scope of this journal.

Health indicators

England and Wales

Figure A Population change (mid-year to mid-year)

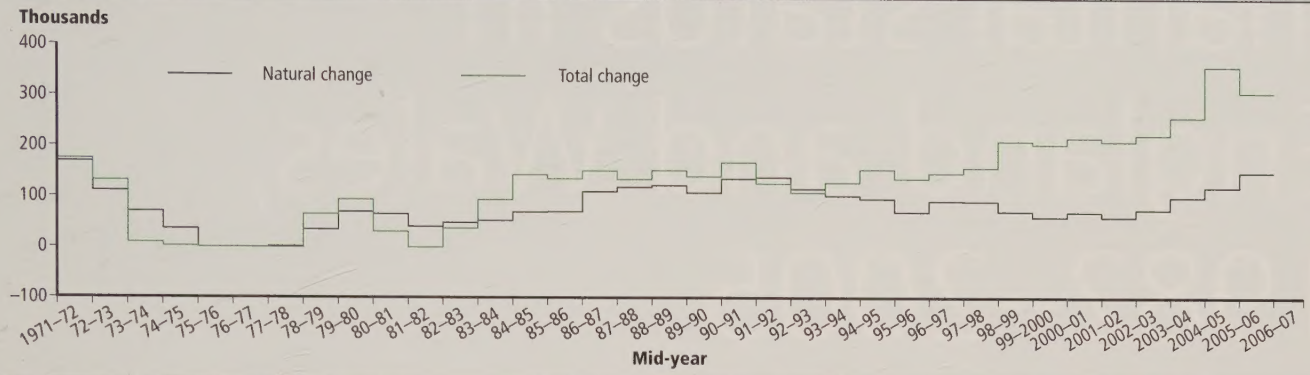


Figure B Age-standardised mortality rate[1]

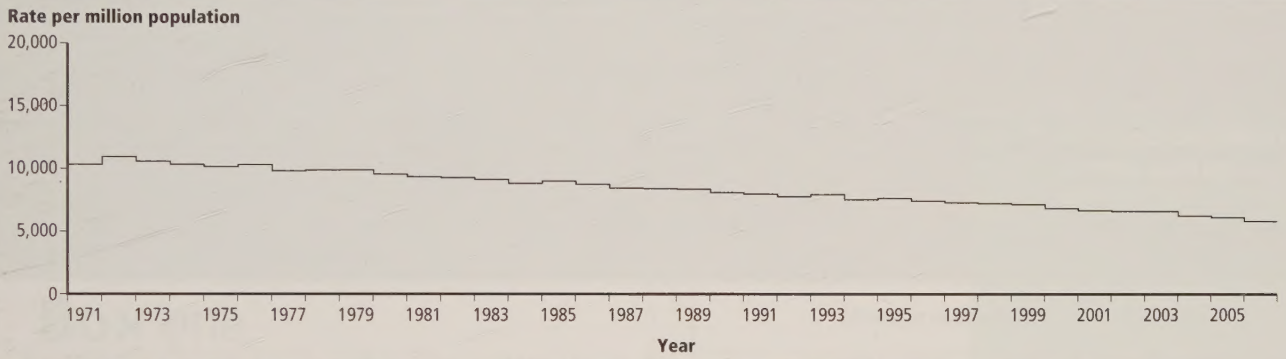


Figure C Infant mortality (under 1 year)

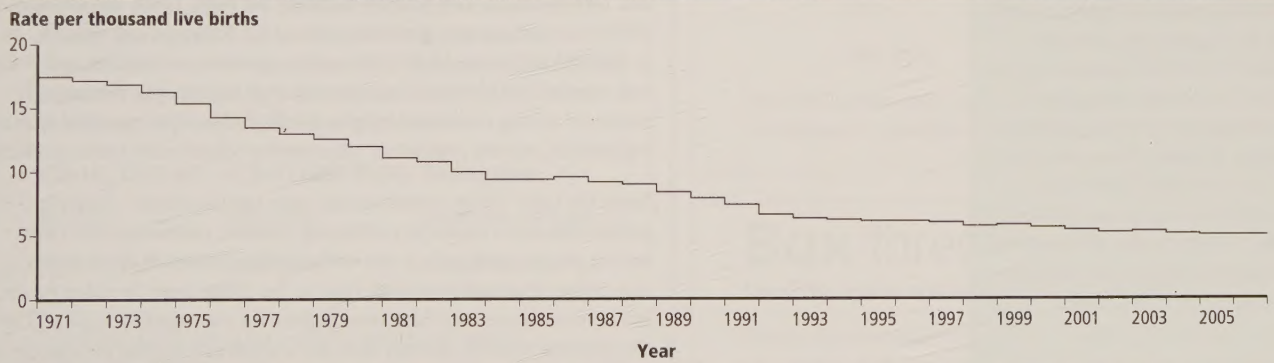
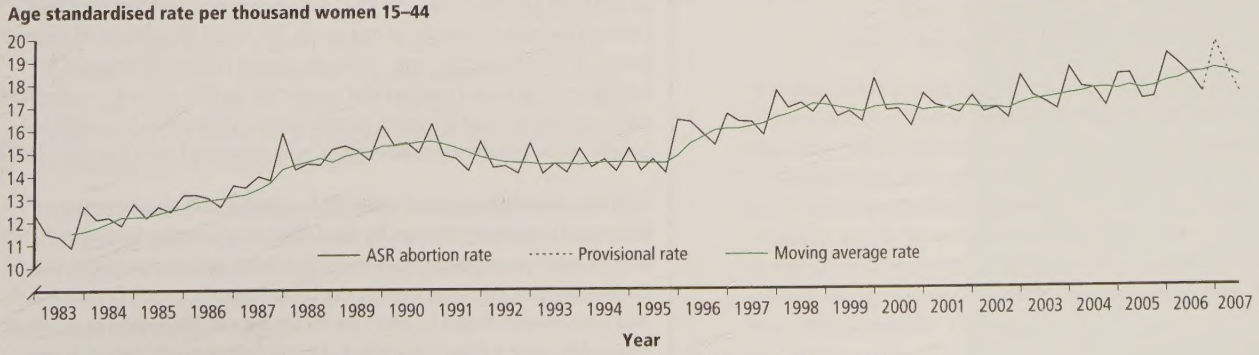


Figure D Age-standardised quarterly abortion rates – residents[2]



1 The age-standardised mortality rate for 2004 is based on mid-2004 population estimates published on 25 August 2005.

2 Rates for 2006 and March quarter 2007 are based on 2004 projected projections.

Trends in suicide by marital status in England and Wales, 1982–2005

Clare Griffiths, Gita Ladva, Anita Brock and Allan Baker
Office for National Statistics

This article examines trends in suicide by marital status in England and Wales over the period 1982 to 2005. A protective effect of marriage has been observed in a number of previous studies and this article updates figures up to 2005. The article shows that despite changes in marriage patterns over the last 25 years, those who are married still have the lowest risk of suicide, and there has generally been no obvious decline in the difference in suicide rates between those who are married and those who are not.

Introduction

Patterns of marriage and divorce have changed dramatically during the late 20th and early 21st century. Between the early 1980s and the mid-2000s the marriage rate more than halved for both men and women,[1] but in 2004/05 still around half of the adult population in England and Wales was married.[2] At the same time, cohabitation has become increasingly common[3] among unmarried people, although this is not recorded at death registration, nor are population estimates by cohabitation status produced.

Since the early 1980s overall suicide rates have declined.[4] However, suicide remains a source of continuing concern, particularly the rates among young adults as it is one of the leading causes of death in this age group.[5] The highest suicide rates in the 1980s were for elderly men, but in recent years they have been highest for men aged 15 to 44.[6,7] The Government's health strategy includes a target of reducing the number of suicides in all ages by a fifth by 2010 from a 1995/97 baseline.[8]

The relationship between suicide and marital status was noted as long ago as 1881, by Morselli,[9] and in 1897 Durkheim postulated that marriage reduced the risk of suicide by increasing the social integration of married people.[10] That being the case, we might expect relative differences in suicide rates between married and unmarried people to have become less clear cut over the last 25 years, since a greater proportion of unmarried people are in cohabiting relationships now compared with the early 1980s.

Suicide patterns by marital status in England and Wales have been examined a number of times by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) and its predecessor organisations.[11,12,13] These studies have shown a continuing link between marital status and suicide: being unmarried was consistently found to be a risk factor for suicide, whereas marriage seemed to have a beneficial effect. This article presents recent figures

for, and examines the relationship between, suicide and marital status for adults aged 25 and over between 1982 and 2005 using the most up-to-date revised population estimates based on the 2001 Census.

Data and methods

The ONS definition of suicide refers to deaths given an underlying cause of death of 'intentional self-harm' or 'injury/poisoning of undetermined intent.' It is assumed that the majority of these latter cases in adults are where the harm was self-inflicted but there was insufficient evidence to prove that the deceased deliberately intended to kill themselves.[6] Box One explains how the data used in this article were collected and selected.

Marital status of the deceased is collected at death registration and is supplied voluntarily by the informant in confidence under the Population (Statistics) Act 1960. This information is not entered into the register and is therefore not in the public record of the death. The possible marital status categories are 'single', 'married', 'divorced', 'widowed', 'not known' or 'not stated'.[14] Information on whether the deceased was cohabiting is not collected at death registration. The number of suicides with a marital status of not known/stated peaked at 8 per cent in the early 1990s and is now around 3 per cent. Due to industrial action taken by registrars in 1981, marital status details for that year are of uncertain quality.[15] Analysis in this article therefore begins with data for deaths registered in 1982.

We have restricted our analysis to ages 25 and over as there is a relatively small number of people in the population aged 16 to 24 who are not single and a correspondingly small number of deaths. Trends in suicide by marital status would therefore be very strongly affected by small temporal changes in the number of deaths and would thus be too unstable to discern for this age group.

Box one

Registration, coding and analysis of suicides in England and Wales

The figures in this report are based on deaths registered within each calendar year where the cause of death was classified as either 'intentional self-harm' or 'injury/poisoning of undetermined intent' after a coroner's investigation. Data were selected using the International Classification of Diseases (ICD) codes listed below:

ICD-10 (2001-05)	ICD-9 (1982-2000)	Description
X60-X84	E950-E959	Intentional self-harm
Y10-Y34*	E980-E989**	Injury/poisoning of undetermined intent

* Excluding Y33.9 where the coroner's verdict was pending
** Excluding E988.8

Deaths assigned to code ICD-9 E988.8 and ICD-10 Y33.9 (where the verdict was pending) are excluded, as these codes are used by ONS in cases where a coroner adjourns an inquest awaiting prosecution in a higher court. The coroner is able to register these deaths before legal proceedings have been completed (accelerated registration). As a large proportion of these cases are subsequently found to be homicides, these deaths are not included in this analysis as their inclusion would present a misleading picture of suicide mortality.

The ICD-10 definition excludes sequelae of intentional self-harm (Y87.0) and sequelae of event of undetermined intent (Y87.2) although they are included within the ICD-9 definition. However, due to the very small numbers of deaths assigned to these codes the data remain comparable between the two ICD Revisions.

The suicide rates in this article have been calculated using the most up-to-date mid-year population estimates revised in light of the 2001 Census.[16] Box Two shows the dates these revised populations were published.[17]

All rates presented are for deaths per 100,000 population of England and Wales and are shown as three-year moving averages. This means that the years referred to in this paper and the accompanying figures are the mid-years - for example 1983 represents the three-year moving average 1982/84. Rates have been directly age-standardised to the European Standard Population (Box Three).

For consistency with previous analyses, suicide rates for single, married and divorced people are presented for all age groups analysed. Figures for suicide in widowed men and women are only presented for ages 45 and over. This is due to very small numbers of deaths occurring at ages under 45 for this group.

Results

Population by marital status

To give context to the analyses of suicide presented later, we examined patterns and trends in the population by marital status. Figure 1 shows the trends in the total population aged 25 and over by legal marital status. It is clear that the married population has been declining slowly but steadily both in terms of absolute numbers and as a proportion of the population, though married people still formed the majority of both men and women – 61 per cent of men and 56 per cent of women aged 25 and

Box two

Publication dates for revised mid-year population estimates used in this article

Mid-year estimate	Published
1982–1991*	March 2003
1992–2000	October 2004
2001	September 2004
2002-2005	August 2007

*Pre-1991 marital status estimates have never been rebased following the revisions to population estimates after the 2001 Census.

Box three

Directly age-standardised mortality rates

Directly age-standardised rates make allowances for differences in the age structure of the population, over time and between sexes. The age-standardised rate for a particular cause of death is that which would have occurred if the observed age-specific rates, that is

$$\frac{\text{deaths in age group}}{\text{mid-year population in age group}} \times 100{,}000$$

for the cause had applied in a given standard population. In this article we have used the European Standard Population. This is a hypothetical population, which is the same for both males and females allowing standardised rates to be compared for each sex and between males and females. Age-standardised suicide rates (using deaths and population data in five-year age bands) have been calculated for both all ages (25 and over) and for broad age-groups: 25–44, 45–74 and 75 and over. Ninety-five per cent confidence intervals have been calculated for all rates presented in this article.

Figure 1 Population aged 25 and over by sex and marital status, 1982–2005

England and Wales

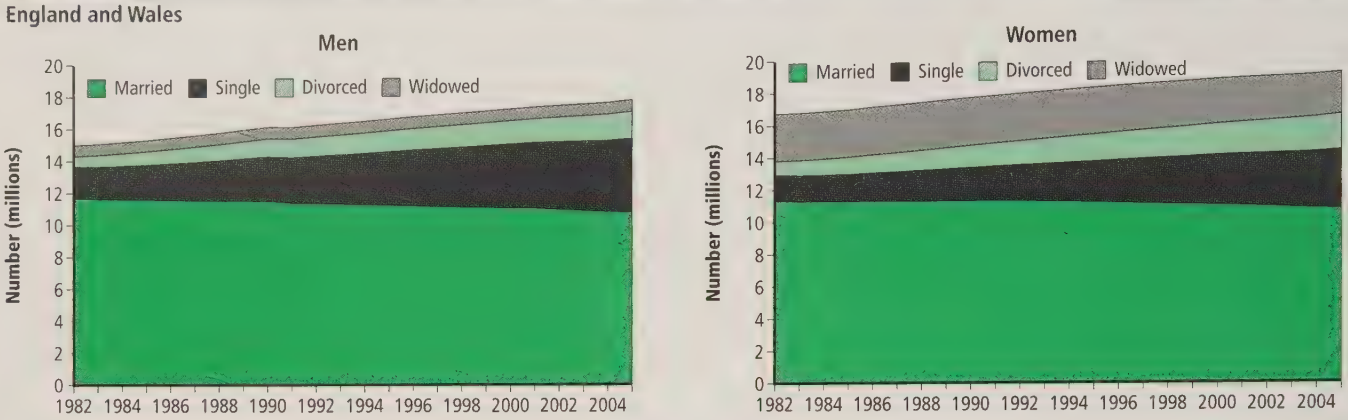
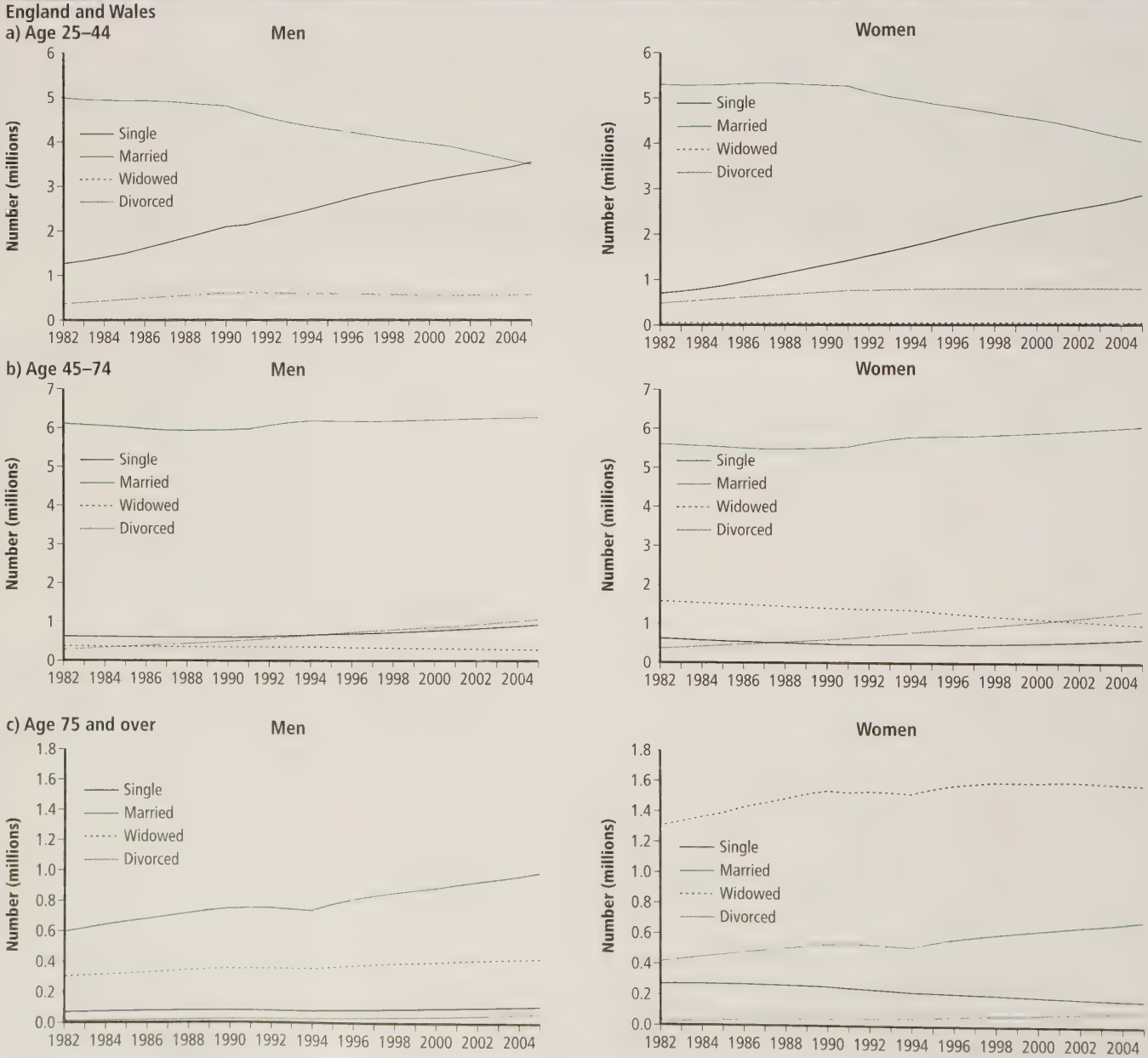


Figure 2 Population by sex, age group and marital status, 1982–2005[1]

England and Wales



1 Note that the scales on these three charts are different.

over were married in 2005 compared with 78 per cent and 68 per cent in 1982. The number of widowed people has remained relatively stable. Conversely, the numbers of single and divorced people have increased.

Looking at patterns by age (Figure 2), among those aged 25 to 44 (Figure 2a), the number of married individuals has decreased, accompanied by a faster increase in the number of single people. The number of divorced people has increased more gradually, whereas the number of widowed remains negligible. By 2005, there were as many single men as married men in this age group, but there were still more married women than single women.

For those aged 45 to 74 (Figure 2b), married people make up by far the largest number and this has increased over the time period for both sexes. The number of widowed people fell, whereas the number of divorced increased. For those aged 75 and over (Figure 2c), the numbers and trends differ by sex. The majority of men were married and this increased over the period, whereas for women the majority were widowed. This also increased over the period, though levelled off during the 1990s and 2000s. The number of married women in this age group also increased. The number of single women aged 75 and over declined, whereas the number of single men remained relatively stable. The number of divorced people in this age group is small, but increasing.

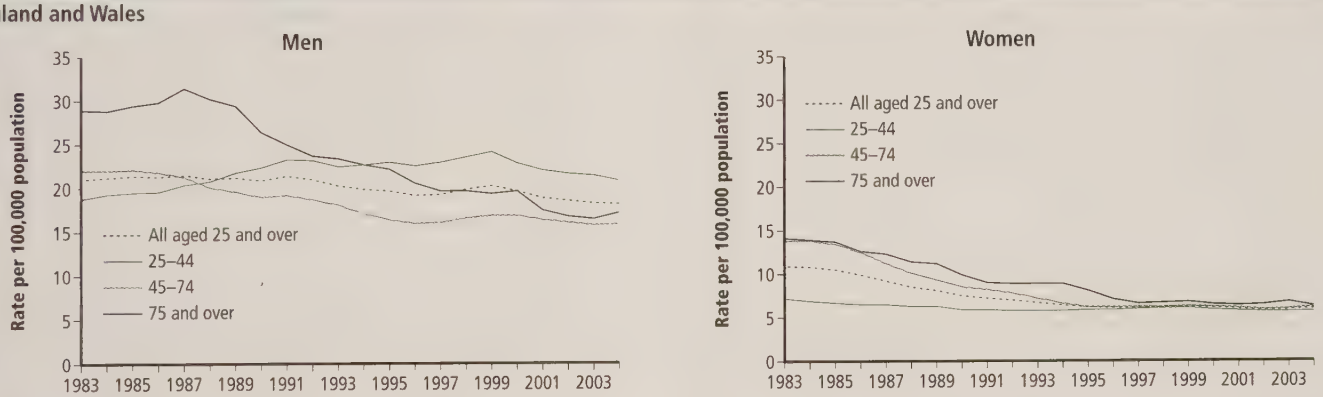
Suicide by marital status

There were 3,141 suicides in men, and 1,116 in women, aged 25 and over in England and Wales in 2005. This compares with 3,154 suicides in men and 1,969 suicides in women in 1982. All-age suicide rates have declined over this period, with decline for men being greater in the second part of the period and that for women being greater in the first part (Figure 3). Men aged 25 to 44 had the lowest male suicide rates during the early 1980s and men aged 75 and over had the highest. Due to the rapid decline in the rates for elderly men and an increase in the rates for young men, from the mid-1990s young men had the highest rates, although suicide rates fell for both age groups in the 2000s. However, an increase occurred in elderly male rates at the end of the period. For women, suicide rates in the second half of the period were similar for all age groups. In the early part of the period, rates for the 25–44 age group were lower than for the other two groups, but these have not fallen as much over time as the rates in the older age groups.

There is a clear pattern in suicide rates by marital status for those aged 25 and over (Figure 4). Over the whole time period 1983 to 2004, married men and women had the lowest suicide rates. Rates among married men were stable at the beginning of the period and then declined. Rates for single and divorced men were similar throughout the period, with both falling. Suicide rates for single and divorced men were around three times higher than for married men over the whole time period. For women, at the beginning of the period the divorced had the highest rates, but by the mid-1990s rates for divorced and single women had declined to similar levels. During the late 1990s rates for women in these two groups stopped declining. Rates among the married fell over the period, but also stopped declining during the 1990s. While rates for divorced women were almost three times those for married women throughout, rates for single women were just over double those for married women in the early part of this period. This ratio increased over time, however, and suicide rates for single women were also approaching three times those of married women by the end of the period.

Figure 3 Age-standardised suicide rates by sex and age group, people aged 25 and over, 1983 to 2004[1]

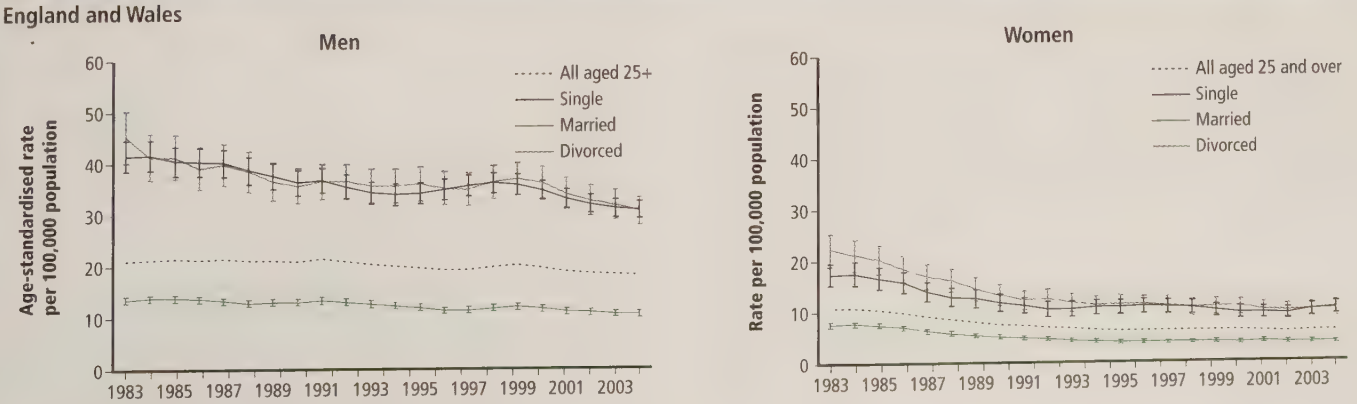
England and Wales



1 Rates are based on 3-year moving averages 1982/84 to 2003/05.

Figure 4 Age-standardised suicide rates by sex and marital status, people aged 25 and over, 1983 to 2004[1]

England and Wales

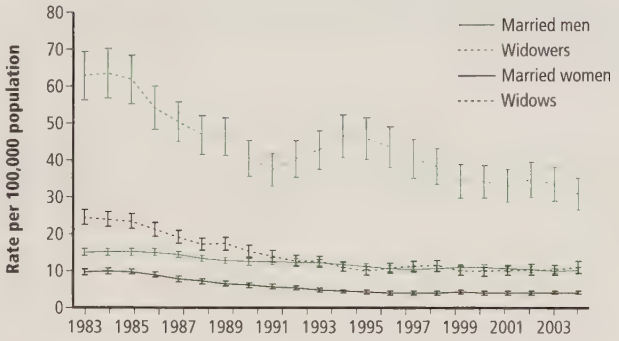


1 Rates are based on 3-year moving averages 1982/84 to 2003/05.

Because there are so few widowed people aged 25 to 44, suicide rates for the widowed are presented for ages 45 and over (Figure 5). In both men and women, rates among the widowed were higher throughout than for those who were married, but have declined. There was however an increase among men in the early 1990s, and subsequent decrease in the late 1990s, that interrupted this trend. For women, rates have remained relatively stable since the mid-1990s. The differentials in suicide rates between widowed men and married men declined over the period, from just over four times in 1983 to three times in 2004. For women, the differential was around two and a half times throughout.

Figure 5 Age-standardised suicide rates by sex and marital status, people aged 45 and over, 1983 to 2004[1]

England and Wales



1 Rates are based on 3-year moving averages 1982/84 to 2003/05.

Suicide by marital status and broad age-group

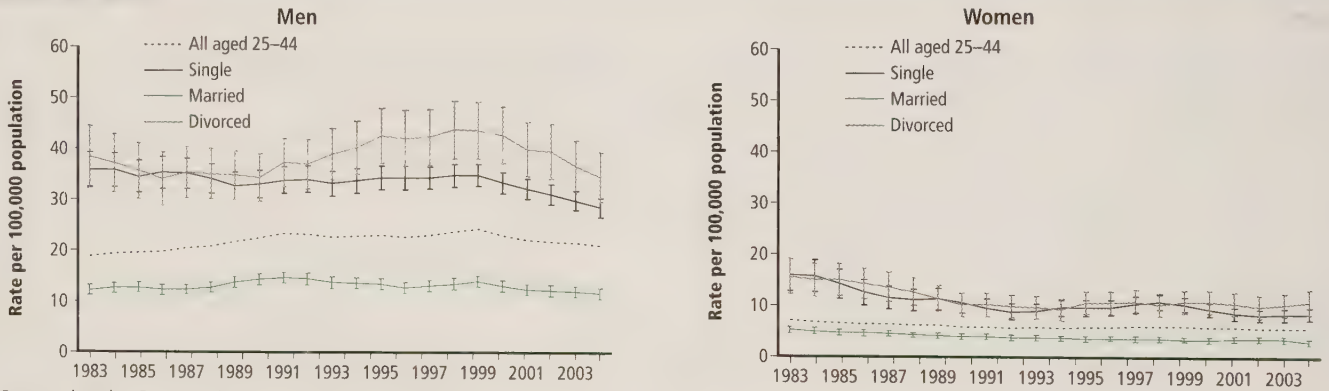
Among those aged 25 to 44, patterns of suicide by marital status varied by sex (Figure 6). Men who were divorced generally had the highest rates, while for women the picture was less clear cut, with single and divorced having similar rates. However, for both sexes, married people had the lowest rates throughout. There was a rise in suicide rates among married men in the 1980s. Between 1983 and 2004 there was a greater decline in suicide rates among single men than married men. The differential between them therefore reduced from being three times higher in 1983 to two and a half times higher in 2004.

For those aged 45 to 74 (Figure 7), again married people had the lowest suicide rates for both men and women. There was no clear cut group with the highest rates for either men or women, with rates for single, divorced and widowed people all being significantly higher than for married throughout. However, rates for widowers were generally higher than for divorced men. This was not the case for women, where rates for widows were similar to those for divorced women.

Among those aged 75 and over the rates are extremely variable, and so are not presented separately for the single, widowed and divorced categories. Rates among the married population were lower than for non-married throughout (Figure 8). The differential between these two groups was greater for men than for women throughout this period. In 2004, the suicide rate for unmarried elderly men was three times that of married men, while for women the unmarried rate was less than one and a half times that of the married.

Figure 6 Age-standardised suicide rates by sex and marital status, people aged 25–44, 1983 to 2004[1]

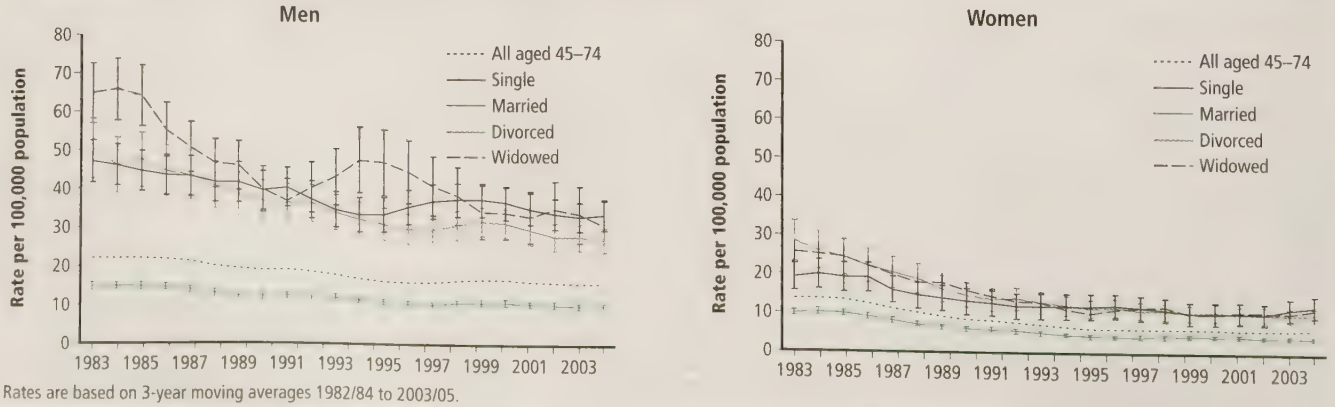
England and Wales



1 Rates are based on 3-year moving averages 1982/84 to 2003/05.

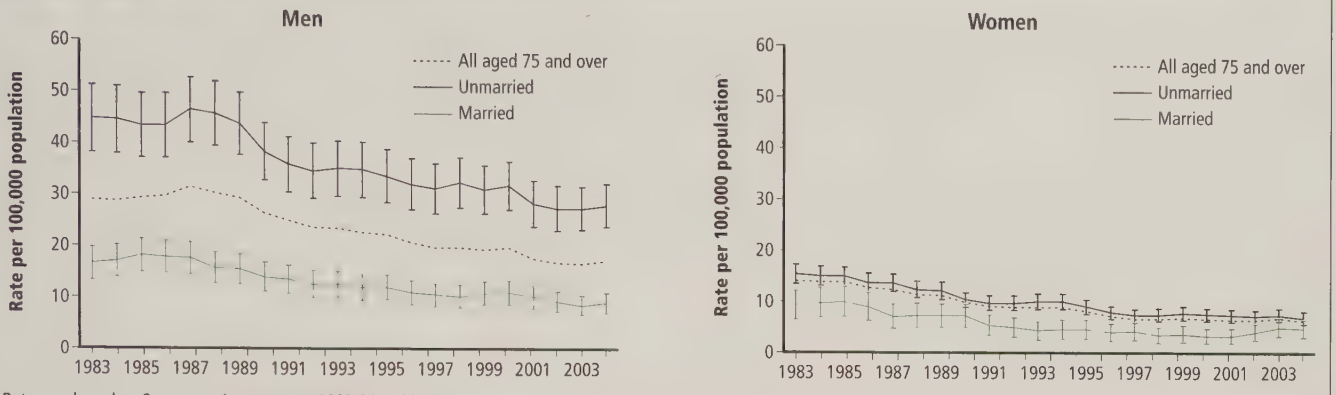
Figure 7 Age-standardised suicide rates by sex and marital status, people aged 45–74, England and Wales, 1983 to 2004[1]

England and Wales



1 Rates are based on 3-year moving averages 1982/84 to 2003/05.

Figure 8 Age-standardised suicide rates by sex and marital status, people aged 75 and over, 1983 to 2004[1]



1 Rates are based on 3-year moving averages 1982/84 to 2003/05.

Discussion

This article has shown that, as presented in earlier articles, suicide rates among married people are lower than for unmarried people for both sexes and in every age group. For single and divorced men aged 25 and over, suicide rates were around three times higher than for married men throughout 1983 to 2004. This was also the case for divorced women, but for single women aged 25 and over the differentials increased over time, to around three times by 2004. Among widowed people aged 45 and over, the differentials varied by sex. Rates were over four times higher for widowed than married men in 1983, falling to around three times higher by 2004. For women rates were around two and a half times higher for widowed than married women throughout. Thus, the effect observed by Durkheim and others is still present today. This effect does not generally appear to be declining over time despite increasing cohabitation among the unmarried population, although there was a small reduction in the differential between single and married men aged 25 to 44.

The pattern of lower rates among the married population observed for suicide mortality is also seen in surveys of psychiatric morbidity. In the most recent survey, divorced people were the most likely ever to have experienced suicidal thoughts or to have attempted suicide. Among divorced men, 25 per cent had ever had suicidal thoughts, compared with 9 per cent among married men. Only 2 per cent of married men had ever attempted suicide compared with 9 per cent of divorced men. Among divorced women, 28 per cent and 11 per cent respectively had ever had suicidal thoughts or had ever made a suicide attempt, compared with 13 per cent and 3 per cent among married women.[18] However, the pattern for the widowed does not fit with that for mortality – the figures for suicidal thoughts and suicide attempts are similar to the figures for the married population, whereas suicide mortality rates are higher in widowed people than married people.

A number of reasons behind the marital status effect on suicide have been postulated, often focussing around the idea that those who are married have access to more social support than those who are not.[10] Although population estimates by cohabitation status are not available, survey data show that the percentage of people cohabiting increased substantially over the time period examined in this article. For example, the proportion of single women aged 18 to 49 who were cohabiting more than tripled between 1979 and 1998[3] and in 2004/05, 27 per cent of single women and 23 per cent of single men aged 18 to 59 were cohabiting.[2] Given this increase, one might then expect a reduction in the difference in rates between the married and unmarried populations. Apart from a small reduction in the differentials between single and married younger men, and among widowers and married men, this however, has not occurred.

There was a rise in suicide rates among young married men in the 1980s. It is therefore likely that factors other than changes in levels of marriage and divorce accounted for the overall rise in young male suicides in the 1980s – if changes in marriage patterns were the sole explanation for the increases then a rise in suicide rates among married men would not be expected. A paper by Gunnell and colleagues examined trends in suicide among young people in England and Wales compared to trends in potential risk factors, using time-series analysis. They found that no single risk factor could be pinpointed as being the main contributor to underlying trends. However, they did find that increases in divorce and reductions in marriage were consistently associated with unfavourable trends in suicide among young men, as was income inequality. However, these changes had little effect on suicide rates in young women.[19]

Another possible explanation for the marital status effect is that those with poor mental health are less likely to marry and more likely, if married, to divorce, suggesting an increased risk in the unmarried population.[20] Another explanation may relate to economic factors – those who are married may have access to a greater net income than those who are not. Although information on income is not available in mortality or census data in England and Wales, it is well established that suicide is associated with material deprivation.[7] Our analysis does not control for this possible effect since, as stated above, information on income is not collected at death registration or census in England and Wales. We did not use a proxy measure such as a socio-economic classification because reliable population data stratified by both marital status and socio-economic status are not available. A study in the USA which was able to control for socio-economic factors found that the protective effect of marriage, as compared to the divorced population, disappeared for women but remained for men when this was done.[21] A study in Denmark also found that when factors such as employment status, income, ethnicity, psychiatric history and clinical history of relatives were included in analysis, being unmarried remained a risk factor for suicide in both sexes, though the effect was stronger for males.[22]

Despite changes in marriage patterns over the last 25 years, those who are married still have a lower risk of suicide than those who are not.

Key findings

- People who are married still have a substantially lower risk of suicide than those who are not, despite changes in marriage patterns over the last 25 years
- Despite an overall reduction in suicide rates, there has been no narrowing of the gap in suicide rates between those who are married and those who are single or divorced. Rates for single and divorced men and divorced women were around three times higher than for married men and women throughout. For single women, the differential widened from just over two times to around three times between 1983 and 2004
- There was a small decrease in the differential between single and married men aged 25 to 44. Suicide rates were three times higher for single men in 1984 but two and a half times higher in 2004
- Among men aged 45 and over, the gap in suicide rates between widowed and married men fell from just over four times to around three times between 1983 and 2004. For widowed women, the differential was around two and a half times throughout

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Assessing quality of NHS Numbers for Babies data and providing gestational age statistics

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This paper investigates the quality of information in the National Health Service (NHS) Numbers for Babies (NN4B) dataset and provides statistics on gestational age at birth in relation to live/stillbirth status, multiple birth status, age of mother, babies' sex, and birthweight. Gestational age information is not recorded at the registration of live births and the NN4B system provides the opportunity to access this information for all live and stillbirths in England and Wales. All NN4B records for babies born in England and Wales in 2005 were used in this analysis. Data quality was generally good although some aspects need further investigation. The gestational age data are credible, consistent with other UK data sources, and the statistics by maternal age, multiplicity and sex are as expected. These data, previously unavailable for England and Wales as a whole, provide a reference against which to monitor trends in preterm births and can inform the planning of neonatal care provision. NN4B is a powerful new data source which can extend information on births in England and Wales.

Introduction

Low gestational age at birth is the principal factor associated with mortality in the perinatal period.[1] For example, in Scotland preterm births accounted for 6.2 per cent of singleton live births in 2004 but 66 per cent of stillbirths and 64 per cent of neonatal deaths.[2] Babies born very preterm are at particular risk of subsequent cognitive, sensory and motor impairments.[3,4] Babies who are small, or large, for their gestational age are more likely than others to have adverse outcomes.[5,6] Substantial effort is made antenatally to identify abnormal fetal size for gestational age and poor fetal growth may prompt a decision to induce labour. Induction of labour is recommended routinely in England for pregnancies that continue beyond 41 completed weeks[7] and recent calls have been made to reduce the gestation at which induction is offered routinely in certain groups.[8,9] Gestational age at birth is both an important obstetric outcome and a risk factor.

Given its importance it is surprising that, until now, comprehensive gestational age data have not been readily available for England.[10,11] Gestational age is not recorded at registration of live births in England and Wales and so is not present in registration data, the routine source of information on births. Although gestational age is included in birth notification records, it had not been feasible to aggregate these data routinely for all births in England, although this had been possible for Wales.[12] Estimates of number of deliveries by gestational age are available from the Hospital Episode Statistics for England[13] but, because some hospitals fail to contribute full maternity data, they are incomplete. In Scotland gestational age data are available from maternity hospital records[14] and in Northern Ireland from child health systems. Wales, Northern Ireland and Scotland each routinely collate gestational age data with information on mortality.[2,15] This left England as the only country in the UK where, until now, it had not been possible to derive levels and

trends in preterm birth or gestation specific stillbirth, perinatal and infant mortality rates. To date, therefore, England has not been included in international comparisons of gestational age statistics such as the Peristat indicators for describing perinatal health across Europe.[16,17]

In 2002 a system for allocating NHS numbers at birth to babies in England, Wales and the Isle of Man was introduced.[18] Including the NHS number in medical records from birth, rather than from birth registration which can take place up to six weeks after birth, is essential for monitoring the care given to new babies, especially those admitted for neonatal care. As a by-product of this change, a subset of birth notification details, including gestational age, is now collected centrally on a single computer system. Thus, for the first time, it is feasible to collate this information for England and Wales as a whole. Moreover, because NHS numbers are now allocated at birth, it is possible to link these notification details with other datasets containing NHS numbers.

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) has received daily downloads of a subset of the variables contained in the data received by the NHS Numbers for Babies (NN4B) Service, for all NHS numbers issued from 1 January 2005. Using these data, statistics on the distribution of live births in England and Wales by multiplicity and gestational age were released for the first time in May 2007.[19] Subsequently, using NN4B data linked with birth registration records and registration records for deaths in the first year of life, statistics on gestation-specific infant mortality in England and Wales were published for the first time in August 2007.[20]

In this paper we describe the NN4B dataset, assess its quality and use it to derive statistics on gestational age at birth in relation to live/stillbirth status, multiple birth status, age of mother, babies' sex, and birthweight.

Methods

The process of allocating NHS numbers to babies is initiated very shortly after delivery when the birth is notified to the NN4B Service via a computer link. An NHS number is promptly returned and incorporated in the baby's record. Of the data submitted to the NN4B Service, the subset of variables received by ONS is shown in Table 1. Approval for the use of NN4B data for linkage and the production of statistical data was given by the North East London Ethics Committee and the Patient Information Advisory Group.

NN4B records relating to all babies born from 1 January to 31 December 2005 inclusive were used in this analysis. A check for duplicate NHS numbers found seven pairs of records identical on all variables including NHS number. One of each pair was deleted leaving 649,740 NN4B records for births occurring in England, Wales and the Isle of Man in 2005. As the Isle of Man is not part of England and Wales, and has separate arrangements for birth registration, the 566 births occurring in hospital in the Isle of Man were excluded from further analysis, leaving a total of 649,174 live and stillbirths.

Assessing NN4B data quality and validity

1. Data quality was assessed by considering missing values and outliers on six key variables: live/stillbirth status, multiple birth status, sex, mothers' date of birth, birthweight and gestational age. These results are presented in Section A and Table 2.

2. In addition, gestational age and birthweight data were examined in combination to further assess the quality of recording. This examination was restricted to live singletons and is covered in Section B (Table 5) alongside the presentation of the detailed gestational age statistics.

3. It is important when considering statistics from a new data source to assess their validity by comparison with data from other sources, and this is covered in Section C. The primary source against which we compared NN4B data was birth registration data. These form the routine source of birth data in England and Wales and are considered complete, as registration is a legal requirement and the data undergo extensive quality checks.[21,22] As registration data include sex, live/stillbirth status, birthweight, gestational age of stillbirths, multiple birth status and mother's age, we were able to compare the distributions of these variables in the two datasets (Table 6). Since birth registration data do not include gestational age of live births we could not validate NN4B gestational age data for **all** births against this source. However, we could make comparisons with data from three other UK datasets, one for each of England, Wales, and Scotland, as described below. These comparisons include all live and stillbirth records with a gestational age recorded as 20 to 45 weeks inclusive (Figures 1 and 2). In an additional check on data quality we compared NN4B birthweight for gestational age data for live singletons with the Scottish data, again including only those with gestational age 20 to 45 weeks (Figure 3).

Table 1 NHS Numbers for Babies variables available to the research project

Variables	Status of variable (M=mandatory C=conditional, O=optional)	Used in this analysis?
Baby and birth details		
NHS number	M	–
Date of birth	M	Y
Delivery time	M	–
Sex	M	Y
Live or still birth	M	Y
Birthweight	M	Y
Gestation	M	Y
Number of births in this confinement	M	Y
Birth order in this confinement (if multiple)	C	–
Suspected congenital anomaly	M	–
Ethnic category of baby	M	–
Postcode of usual address of baby	O	–
Place of birth details		
Organisation name	C	–
Organisation code	C	–
Delivery place type	M	–
Mother details		
Mothers' NHS number	C	–
Mothers' date of birth	C	Y
Health care professional details		
National GP code	C	–
Child health organisation code	M	–

Table 2 Completeness and quality of select NN4B variables, 2005

Variable	Records with missing values percentage (number)	Records with outlying or implausible values percentage (number)
Live/stillbirth status	0% (0)	0.04% (231) recorded as 'dead' [1]
Multiple birth status	0% (0)	0.002% (11) >=5 births in the confinement
Sex	0% (0)	0% (0)
Mothers' date of birth	0.07% (471)	0.01% (83)
Birthweight	0.4% (2,782) [2]	0.01% (52) birthweight >=6,000g
Gestational age	0.7% (4,319) [3]	0.02% (121) <20 weeks, 0.03% (216) 46+ weeks

1 The option 'dead' on NN4B records allows the clinician to indicate that a baby born alive had died before the notification was made. These births were counted as live born in the analysis presented in this paper.
2 Live singletons 0.4% (2,536), live multiples 1.0% (195), stillbirths 1.5% (51).
3 Live singletons 0.7% (4,186), live multiples 0.7% (133), stillbirths 0% (0).

Datasets used for comparisons:

1. *Birth registration data for England and Wales, 2005.*[21,22]
2. *Maternity Hospital Episode Statistics (HES) data for England, 2004/05.*[13] Since some maternity units fail to contribute data, information is missing for 25 per cent of deliveries in hospitals and most home births. The HES estimates of the number of deliveries at each gestational age are obtained by grossing up the percentage distribution obtained from records with data to match the known number of deliveries in the year.
3. *The National Community Child Health Database for Wales (NCCHD).*[12] This uses data derived from Community Child Health System databases (CCH2000) held by NHS Trusts and merged to create an all-Wales database. Since 2002 CCH2000 records have been initiated from NN4B records but may subsequently be amended or added to by Trusts. As there were only 32,768 births in Wales in 2005,[22] data for the five years 2001–05 have been used.[23]
4. *Scottish Morbidity Record (SMR02), maternity hospital data.*[14] Data are available for 98 per cent of all births in Scotland. Most of the shortfall is due to incomplete data submissions from maternity units, the remainder being due to home births and births in non-NHS hospitals. As there were only 54,678 births in Scotland in 2005,[22] data for the five years 2001–05 have been used.[24]

In comparing NN4B data with these datasets the following points should be considered. The birth registration dataset refers to all births occurring in England and Wales in 2005, exactly as does the NN4B dataset. However, the HES data refer to England, and the NCCHD data refer to Wales. Unfortunately, as we found postcode to be poorly recorded in the NN4B data, it was not easy to separate out the NN4B records for England from those for Wales; consequently all comparisons used NN4B data for England and Wales combined. In contrast to the comparison datasets for England and Wales, the Scottish data are an external source that refer to a different country and, therefore, comparisons with NN4B data may reflect real differences in health and clinical policy and practice between Scotland and England and Wales.

Gestational age statistics

We derived: i) the gestational age distribution, ii) the mean gestational age, and iii) the percentage preterm, separately for live and stillbirths subdivided by multiple birth status in each case (Table 3). In line with WHO definitions,[25] preterm birth was defined as before 37 completed weeks of gestation, term as 37–41 completed weeks, and post term as 42 or more completed weeks (Box One). Births with unstated gestational age were omitted from the calculations of means, and from the denominator used in calculating the percentage preterm. More detailed analyses of singleton live births tabulated gestational age by mother's age at birth, by babies' sex (Table 4) and by birthweight (Table 5). Only births of stated birthweight were included in the calculations of the mean birthweight and the percentage of babies of low birthweight (those weighing under 2,500g).

These statistics are presented in Section B.

Box one

Definitions used

Gestational age

Preterm	Less than 37 completed weeks
Term	37 to 41 completed weeks
Post term	42 or more completed weeks

Birthweight

Low birthweight	Less than 2,500g

Results

A. Internal quality of NN4B data

The completeness and quality of NN4B data on live/stillbirth status, multiple birth status, sex, mothers' date of birth, birthweight and gestational age is shown in Table 2. Data completeness is generally good for these variables, although 0.4 per cent of births have unstated birthweight and 0.7 per cent unstated gestational age. On some of the variables a small percentage of records have outlying or implausible values. The gestational age and birthweight data are examined further towards the end of the next section.

B. Gestational age statistics from NN4B data, and examining consistency of birthweight and gestational age information

The percentage of all births in England and Wales in 2005 born preterm was 7.9 per cent (Table 3). Although most preterm births were live singletons, the proportion of live multiples and proportion of stillbirths born preterm were much higher (53.3 per cent and 63.8 per cent respectively) than the proportion of live singletons born preterm (6.2 per cent). These differences are reflected in the mean gestational age, which was 39.25 weeks for live singletons but four weeks less for live multiples and six weeks less for stillbirths. Multiple births accounted for 2.9 per cent of all births but 20 per cent of preterm births. More than one in 25 births were born post term.

Singleton live births

The percentage of singleton live births born preterm showed a U-shaped association with the age of mother (Table 4). The highest percentage born preterm occurred in babies of mothers aged under 20 and those aged 40 and over, groups which between them account for 10 per cent of all live singletons. The percentage of live singletons born at under 28 weeks was also highest in these maternal age groups. The lowest percentage born preterm was in babies of mothers aged 30–34. The percentage born post term decreased with mothers' age, from 4.8 per cent in the youngest to 3.8 per cent in the oldest age group. The mean gestational age at birth increased slightly from 39.23 weeks for babies of mothers aged under 20 to a maximum of 39.29 for mothers aged 30–34; it then decreased with mothers' age to 39.02 weeks at ages 40 and over.

A higher percentage of boys were born preterm (6.7 per cent) than girls (5.8 per cent); the difference between the sexes was largely confined to gestational ages 32–36 weeks. The percentage born post term was slightly higher for boys than girls.

Table 3 Gestational age at birth by live/stillbirth and multiple birth status, all births: NN4B data, 2005

England and Wales

	Live births			Stillbirths			All births	Number of all births
	Singleton	Multiple	All live births	Singleton	Multiple	All stillbirths		
Gestational age distribution (percentage)								
<22 wks	0.05	0.27	0.05	:	:	:	0.05	330
22 wks	0.02	0.18	0.02	:	:	:	0.02	159
23 wks	0.03	0.44	0.05	:	:	:	0.05	294
24 wks	0.06	0.69	0.08	8.01	11.15	8.26	0.12	785
25 wks	0.06	0.64	0.08	6.29	7.19	6.36	0.11	735
26 wks	0.10	0.67	0.11	5.73	5.76	5.73	0.14	921
27 wks	0.10	0.85	0.12	4.82	6.47	4.95	0.14	940
28 wks	0.14	1.28	0.17	4.82	3.24	4.69	0.19	1,251
29 wks	0.15	1.64	0.19	3.85	3.60	3.83	0.21	1,361
30 wks	0.20	1.93	0.25	3.88	4.68	3.94	0.27	1,755
31 wks	0.23	2.69	0.30	3.35	5.04	3.48	0.32	2,069
32 wks	0.32	4.02	0.43	3.79	7.19	4.06	0.45	2,898
33 wks	0.47	5.09	0.61	3.75	7.91	4.09	0.62	4,051
34 wks	0.77	7.75	0.97	3.85	8.99	4.26	0.99	6,437
35 wks	1.19	10.06	1.45	4.54	7.19	4.75	1.46	9,509
36 wks	2.32	14.69	2.68	5.26	6.47	5.35	2.70	17,519
37 wks	5.26	20.39	5.70	6.13	5.40	6.07	5.70	36,990
38 wks	13.40	19.11	13.57	7.45	4.68	7.23	13.53	87,846
39 wks	22.12	4.78	21.61	6.85	3.24	6.56	21.53	139,776
40 wks	27.88	1.54	27.11	9.17	1.80	8.58	27.01	175,364
41 wks	20.06	0.38	19.49	6.91	0.00	6.36	19.42	126,045
42 wks	4.00	0.18	3.89	1.28	0.00	1.18	3.88	25,179
43 wks	0.26	0.03	0.26	0.13	0.00	0.12	0.26	1,663
44 wks	0.09	0.01	0.09	0.09	0.00	0.09	0.09	552
45 wks	0.03	0.00	0.03	0.06	0.00	0.06	0.03	210
46+ wks	0.03	0.00	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.03	216
not stated	0.67	0.71	0.67	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.67	4,319
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	
Number	626,924	18,776	645,700	3,196	278	3,474	649,174	649,174
Percentage preterm (<37 wks)	*6.2*	*53.3*	*7.6*	*61.9*	*84.9*	*63.8*	*7.9*	
Mean gestational age, weeks	39.25	35.36	39.14	33.13	31.21	32.97	39.10	

The distribution of live singletons by gestational age and birthweight is shown in Table 5, along with the birthweight distribution, percentage low birthweight and mean birthweight for gestational age groups. Over 90 per cent of live singletons are neither preterm nor of low birthweight, while 3.5 per cent are both preterm and of low birthweight. Over 100 live singletons were recorded as being born at under 20 weeks gestational age of which half (52) were recorded as having a birthweight of 2,500g or above. This combination is implausible and suggests errors in the recording of birthweight, gestational age or both. Similarly, nine live singletons were recorded as of 20–21 weeks gestational age and birthweight of at least 2,500g. Furthermore, 944 term/post term births were recorded with a birthweight of under 500g (that is, 1–499g), again suggesting recording errors in birthweight, gestational age or both. Although these 944 births account for under 0.2 per cent of term/post term live singletons, the numbers involved are not insubstantial, and give rise to only 34.2 per cent recorded as preterm amongst live singletons weighing 1–499g at birth. In comparison, 97.6 per cent of those weighing 500–1,499g at birth are born preterm. Almost 5 per cent of babies of under 32 weeks gestational age have unstated birthweight compared to less than 0.5 per cent of term and post term births.

C. Assessing quality of NN4B gestational age data through comparison with other data sources

NN4B data and birth registration data for England and Wales are compared in Table 6. There is almost total agreement between the datasets regarding the percentage of births that are born live, the percentage that are multiples, the sex ratio and the maternal age distribution. The birthweight distributions of live births agree closely between the datasets except that the proportion of births weighing 1–499g is higher in the NN4B than the registration data. The birthweight distributions of stillbirths broadly agree although less closely than for live births. The gestational age distributions of stillbirths are similar; however the percentage of stillbirths that are preterm is lower according to NN4B than registration information, while the percentage term/post term is higher. There are 205 fewer NN4B than registration records for births in 2005.

Figure 1 compares the gestational age distribution of all births of gestational age 32–45 weeks in the NN4B data with distributions in each of Scotland, Wales and England. Equivalent comparisons are shown on a larger scale in Figure 2 for births of 20–31 weeks gestation. The

Table 4

Gestational age at birth by mothers' age and by babies' sex, live singletons: NN4B data, 2005

England and Wales

	Mothers' age						Babies' sex[1]		All live singletons
	under 20	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40 and over	Male	Female	
Gestational age distribution (percentage)									
<22 wks	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
22-23 wks	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
24-27 wks	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3
28-31 wks	1.0	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.7
32-34 wks	2.0	1.5	1.6	1.4	1.6	1.8	1.7	1.4	1.6
35-36 wks	4.0	3.7	3.5	3.3	3.5	3.9	3.8	3.3	3.5
37-38 wks	16.4	17.7	18.0	18.7	20.7	23.8	19.1	18.2	18.7
39-41 wks	70.2	70.5	70.8	70.6	68.5	64.9	69.1	71.0	70.1
42+ wks	4.8	4.6	4.4	4.5	4.1	3.8	4.5	4.3	4.4
not stated	1.1	0.9	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.7	0.7	0.7
Number of live singletons	44,192	119,893	159,585	181,628	99,927	21,215	321,030	305,348	626,924
Percentage preterm (<37 wks)	*7.6*	*6.5*	*6.2*	*5.8*	*6.2*	*7.1*	*6.7*	*5.8*	*6.2*
Mean gestational age, weeks	39.23	39.27	39.28	39.29	39.18	39.02	39.21	39.29	39.25

1 There were 546 live singleton births recorded as unknown sex.

Table 5

Gestational age by birthweight, live singletons: NN4B data, 2005
(shaded areas: dark grey = preterm & low birthweight; light grey = preterm or low birthweight but not both)

England and Wales

Gestational age (numbers)	Birthweight (grams)											Total
	1–	500–	1,000–	1,500–	2,000–	2,500–	3,000–	3,500–	4,000–	4,500+	not stated	
<20 wks	47	0	0	0	1	10	22	13	6	1	9	109
20-21 wks	139	11	2	0	1	2	2	3	2	0	8	170
22-23 wks	113	200	4	0	0	2	1	3	0	0	15	338
24-27 wks	64	1,319	394	14	7	17	24	13	9	5	103	1,969
28-31 wks	30	490	2,064	1,310	143	81	76	49	13	5	205	4,466
32-34 wks	46	33	724	3,111	3,934	1,282	303	94	17	5	241	9,790
35-36 wks	52	6	103	1,467	6,328	9,324	3,578	850	168	36	118	22,030
37-38 wks	183	9	42	777	8,783	36,158	45,951	19,617	4,335	742	359	116,956
39-41 wks	706	38	30	190	5,095	54,101	168,123	150,734	50,054	8,784	1,325	439,180
42-45 wks	54	4	9	12	173	1,682	7,934	11,073	5,202	1,252	119	27,514
46+ wks	1	0	0	2	6	34	77	65	29	1	1	216
not stated	5	15	31	52	208	737	1,483	1,144	399	79	33	4,186
Total	1,440	2,125	3,403	6,935	24,679	103,430	227,574	183,658	60,234	10,910	2,536	626,924

Gestational age	Birthweight distribution (per cent)[1]											Within gestational age group			
	1–	500–	1,000–	1,500–	2,000–	2,500–	3,000–	3,500–	4,000–	4,500+	Total[1]	Low birthweight (per cent)	Mean birthweight (grams)	Lower 95% confidence limit	Upper 95% confidence limit
<20 wks	*47.0*	*0.0*	*0.0*	*0.0*	*1.0*	*10.0*	*22.0*	*13.0*	*6.0*	*1.0*	*100.0*	*48.0*	1,925	1,603	2,248
20–21 wks	*85.8*	*6.8*	*1.2*	*0.0*	*0.6*	*1.2*	*1.2*	*1.9*	*1.2*	*0.0*	*100.0*	*94.4*	570	457	684
22–23 wks	*35.0*	*61.9*	*1.2*	*0.0*	*0.0*	*0.6*	*0.3*	*0.9*	*0.0*	*0.0*	*100.0*	*98.1*	587	544	631
24–27 wks	*3.4*	*70.7*	*21.1*	*0.8*	*0.4*	*0.9*	*1.3*	*0.7*	*0.5*	*0.3*	*100.0*	*96.4*	952	923	980
28–31 wks	*0.7*	*11.5*	*48.4*	*30.7*	*3.4*	*1.9*	*1.8*	*1.1*	*0.3*	*0.1*	*100.0*	*94.7*	1,472	1,455	1,489
32–34 wks	*0.5*	*0.3*	*7.6*	*32.6*	*41.2*	*13.4*	*3.2*	*1.0*	*0.2*	*0.1*	*100.0*	*82.2*	2,105	2,095	2,115
35–36 wks	*0.2*	*0.0*	*0.5*	*6.7*	*28.9*	*42.6*	*16.3*	*3.9*	*0.8*	*0.2*	*100.0*	*36.3*	2,654	2,647	2,661
37–38 wks	*0.2*	*0.0*	*0.0*	*0.7*	*7.5*	*31.0*	*39.4*	*16.8*	*3.7*	*0.6*	*100.0*	*8.4*	3,129	3,126	3,131
39–41 wks	*0.2*	*0.0*	*0.0*	*0.0*	*1.2*	*12.4*	*38.4*	*34.4*	*11.4*	*2.0*	*100.0*	*1.4*	3,482	3,480	3,483
42–45 wks	*0.2*	*0.0*	*0.0*	*0.0*	*0.6*	*6.1*	*29.0*	*40.4*	*19.0*	*4.6*	*100.0*	*0.9*	3,661	3,655	3,666
46+ wks	*0.5*	*0.0*	*0.0*	*0.9*	*2.8*	*15.8*	*35.8*	*30.2*	*13.5*	*0.5*	*100.0*	*4.2*	3,415	3,340	3,489
not stated	*0.1*	*0.4*	*0.7*	*1.3*	*5.0*	*17.7*	*35.7*	*27.5*	*9.6*	*1.9*	*100.0*	*7.5*	3,323	3,304	3,342
Total	*0.2*	*0.3*	*0.5*	*1.1*	*4.0*	*16.6*	*36.4*	*29.4*	*9.6*	*1.7*	*100.0*	*6.2*	3,349	3,347	3,350
Within birthweight group:															
Percentage preterm	*34.2*	*97.6*	*97.6*	*85.8*	*42.6*	*10.4*	*1.8*	*0.6*	*0.4*	*0.5*					

1 Distribution of births with stated birthweights only.

Figure 1 Gestational age distribution, all births, 32–45 weeks gestation: comparing NN4B data with data from England, Wales & Scotland

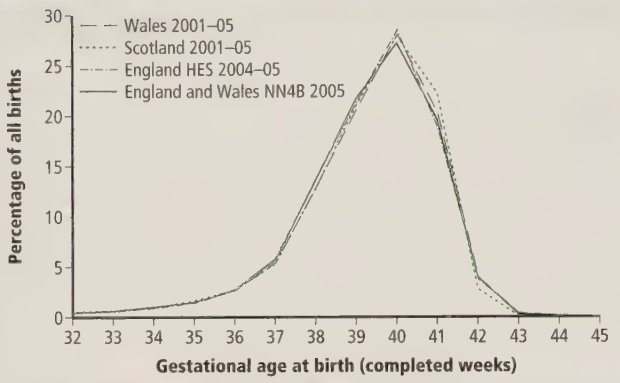


Figure 2 Gestational age distribution, all births, 20-31 weeks gestation: comparing NN4B data with data from England, Wales & Scotland

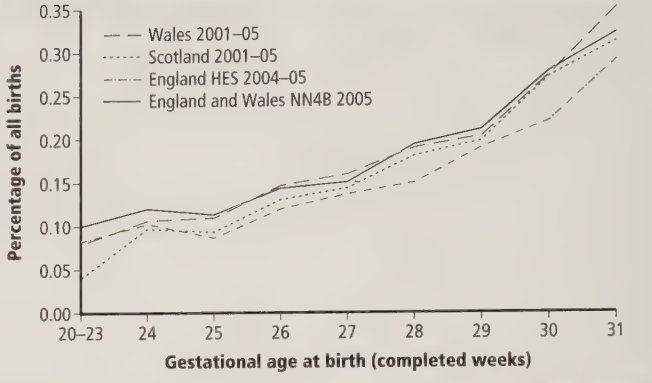
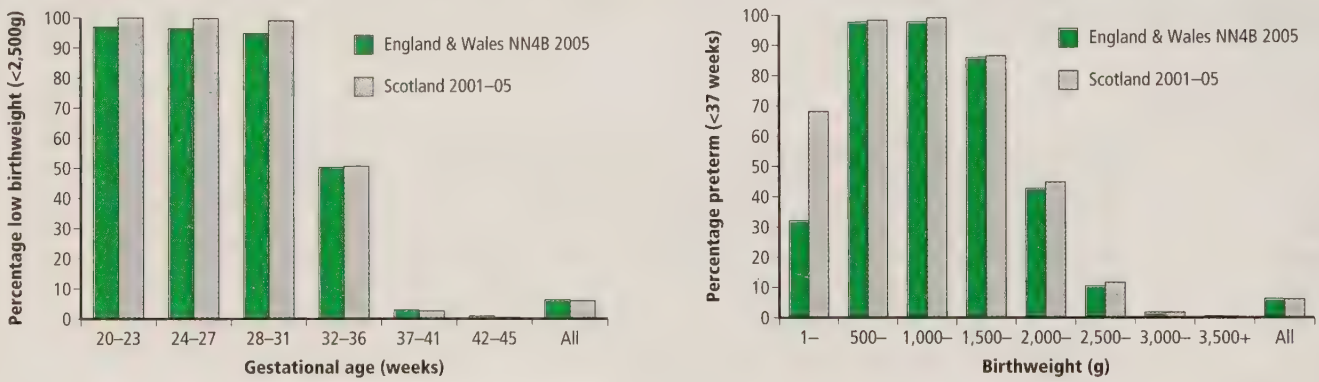


Figure 3 Birthweight and gestational age data, live singletons: comparing NN4B data with Scottish data

a) Percentage low birthweight within gestational age group

b) Percentage preterm within birthweight group



NN4B data have a very similar gestational age distribution to the other datasets except that they indicate a higher percentage of births at very low gestational ages.

The NN4B birthweight for gestational age data for live singletons are compared with the Scottish data in Figure 3. The data on the percentage low birthweight within gestational age groups show close agreement between the two datasets (Figure 3a). The percentage preterm within birthweight groups also shows close agreement, with the exception of the birthweight group 1–499g where the NN4B data indicate a much lower percentage born preterm (Figure 3b). This difference results from the NN4B birthweight and/or gestation recording errors identified earlier.

Discussion

This paper has presented and validated a new dataset, NN4B, that has the potential to enhance what is known about births in England and Wales. We have demonstrated the data to be essentially of good quality. In particular gestational age data are credible, consistent with other data sources, and the statistics by maternal age, multiplicity and sex are as expected. The gestational age statistics presented, for all births in England and Wales in 2005, provide a reference against which to monitor trends in the percentage born preterm, the absolute number of preterm births, and changes at the upper and lower end of the gestational age distribution. This information can inform the planning of neonatal care provision. It can also be used by clinicians to compare their local populations against the national distribution and offers the potential to monitor size for gestational age. The information can furthermore be used to investigate differentials across population subgroups and in making international comparisons.

The consistency and validation checks, both internally and in comparison with other data sources, have indicated some problems. Firstly, there were slightly fewer NN4B records for births in 2005 than there were birth registration records. This discrepancy will be investigated. However, it is unlikely that the statistics presented in this paper will be affected materially. Secondly, the opportunity to relate birthweight to gestational age information has highlighted some implausible combinations of the two characteristics. These are most evident amongst the lowest weight and gestational age groups. In our study 109 live singletons were under 20 weeks gestational age, of which half did not have low birthweight. Live birth before 20 weeks gestation is itself unusual and birthweights of 2,500g or more in this group are highly improbable. Our recently published analysis of gestation-specific infant mortality[20] gave rise to serious doubt as to whether the births recorded as being of under 22 weeks gestational age with birthweights 1,000g and over were truly of extremely low gestational age. Focussing on all babies recorded as born before 24 weeks gestational age, we plan to investigate the inconsistencies in the recording of gestational age and birthweight information by cross-validating the information against that collected by the Confidential Enquiry into Maternal and Child Health (CEMACH).[26] However, going back to the original records is not always feasible in large routine datasets.

Table 6 **Comparison of NN4B and birth registration data, 2005**

England and Wales

	NN4B data		Birth registration data	
Live births as percentage of all births	99.5		99.5	
Multiple births as percentage of all births	2.9		3.0	
Sex ratio (male/female births)	1.05		1.05	
Maternal age distribution of all births (per cent)[1]				
under 20	6.9		6.9	
20-24	18.9		18.9	
25-29	25.4		25.4	
30-34	29.1		29.1	
35-39	16.2		16.1	
40 and over	3.5		3.5	
Birthweight distribution of births (per cent)	live births	stillbirths	live births	stillbirths
1g–	0.3	9.1	0.1	8.4
500g–	0.4	22.5	0.4	24.0
1,000g–	0.7	11.8	0.7	12.6
1,500g–	1.5	10.0	1.5	10.7
2,000g–	4.7	10.9	4.8	11.0
2,500g–	16.9	12.4	17.0	12.0
3,000g–	35.6	12.8	35.6	11.2
3,500g–	28.5	6.3	28.5	5.7
4,000g–	9.3	2.1	9.3	1.8
4,500g+	1.7	0.8	1.7	1.0
not stated	0.4	1.5	0.3	1.6
Gestational age distribution of stillbirths (per cent)				
24–27 wks		25.3		26.7
28–31 wks		16.0		16.6
32–34 wks		12.4		12.9
35–36 wks		10.1		10.2
37–38 wks		13.3		12.5
39–41 wks		21.5		18.5
42+ wks		1.4		0.9
not stated		0.0		1.6
Number of birth records[2]	649,174		649,379	

1 Births with stated mother's age.
2 Extract of registration records taken August 2006.

In Scotland unusual combinations of birthweight and gestation are queried at source as part of the data processing.[27] Different criteria for excluding records with implausible weights for gestational age tested using routine Canadian data found all methods excluded relatively more larger babies and more babies who subsequently died.[28] Therefore, a priori exclusion is inadvisable as it runs the risk of introducing bias. While it is important to try and resolve these issues, they do only affect a small number of records and, importantly, the percentage of live singletons born preterm (6.2 per cent) remains unchanged regardless of whether births of under 22 weeks gestational age are included or not.

It is useful here to draw on the findings (described in full elsewhere[29]) from the pilot linkage of NN4B and registration records for births in the first quarter of 2005. This identified some records with discrepancies between the NN4B and registration birthweight information. Although 98.5 per cent of linked records had identical birthweights, the groups most affected by the discrepancies were those with weights recorded in NN4B data as missing or less than 500g. A substantial number of weights recorded in NN4B as 1–499g were recorded in the registration information with one or more additional zeros. Over 95 per cent of the linked records with unstated birthweight in the NN4B data had a value in the registration data. These differences are probably due to subsequent updating or correction of records by maternity staff, child health staff, registrars or ONS.[22]

The pilot linkage contributed other information regarding NN4B data quality. The gestational age at birth of the stillbirth registrations that linked with an NN4B record agreed in 81.8 per cent of records; in 13.5 per cent there was a difference of one week, and in 4.7 per cent a difference of two or more weeks. Linkage of the NN4B and registration records provides the opportunity to improve the data held in either source, where a data item is held in both sources. Birthweight and mother's date of birth from an NN4B record was available for almost all of the birth registrations missing this information. The linkage also found that live/stillbirth status and multiple birth status were each differently classified in approximately one in 1,000 records.

The NN4B data specification asks for gestation length in weeks 'calculated from relevant menstrual data held within the maternity system'. This is in accordance with the internationally accepted definition of gestational age as the number of completed days or weeks since the first day of the last normal menstrual period (LMP).[25] However it is now widely accepted that ultrasound, first introduced into clinical obstetric practice in the 1970s, gives a better estimate of gestational age than LMP does.[30,31] While the convention of calculating the duration of gestation from the LMP still persists, there is an increasing tendency to use the gestational age assessed by ultrasound now that second trimester scans are a routine part of antenatal assessment in Britain. A study of births of 27/28 weeks gestation in England, Wales and Northern Ireland between 1998 and 2000 found that 79 per cent of the mothers had had an ultrasound before 20 weeks gestation, and 85 per cent had had menstrual history recorded.[10] In a study of maternity units in north west London, 95 per cent of all mothers between 1988 and 2000 had received a midtrimester ultrasound.[9] Gestational age distributions have been shown to differ depending on the method used to assess gestational age. Studies have shown that if second trimester ultrasound is used in place of LMP, the mean gestational age at birth is one week earlier, the proportion of preterm births is slightly higher, and the proportion of post term births lower.[32,33,34]

No information about the method of gestational age assessment is recorded on NN4B records. We may assume that common practice is to submit the estimate in use at the time of labour but it is possible that in some cases gestational age based on LMP is submitted, as requested, even if it has been revised in the light of an ultrasound scan. Either way, gestational age in completed weeks is a truncated index, with the actual gestational age being 0–6 days longer. The distribution of births on each of these days is not equal; before 40 weeks the distribution of births at a given gestational age is skewed to later in the week, after 40 weeks to earlier in the week. A further issue concerning the measurement of gestational age is the fact that the full gestational age distribution, while broadly normal, is highly skewed to the left and mean gestation statistics must therefore be interpreted with caution.

Aspects of clinical obstetric practice, such as the use of ultrasound to assess gestational age, induction of labour, and elective Caesarean section, are likely to affect the distribution of gestational ages. As such they may contribute to any differences in the gestational age distributions observed between countries, and also by maternal age groups.

Conclusion

This paper has described the new NN4B data and shown their overall quality to be good, although more exploration is needed of certain aspects of the data. The gestational age statistics presented for England and Wales, and previously unavailable routinely, can inform the planning of neonatal care provision, and provide a reference against which to monitor trends in preterm

births, and investigate differentials across population subgroups. From now onwards, information available from the NN4B data that is not collected at birth registration, such as gestational age, will be analysed by ONS and will form part of National Statistics on births in England and Wales.

Key findings

- NHS Numbers for Babies (NN4B) data are generally of good quality
- The gestational age data are credible, consistent with other data sources, and the statistics by maternal age, multiplicity and sex are as expected
- The percentage of singleton live births born preterm is lowest in babies of mothers aged 30–34 as compared to all other maternal age groups
- The gestational age statistics, previously unavailable for England and Wales as a whole, provide a reference against which to monitor trends in preterm births, and can inform the provision of neonatal care
- The NN4B dataset is a powerful new source which can extend what is known about births in England and Wales

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Symbols

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Notes to tables

Time series
For most tables, years start at 1971 and then continue at five-year intervals until 1991. Individual years are shown thereafter. If a year is not present the data are not available.

United Kingdom
The United Kingdom comprises England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. The Channel Islands and the Isle of Man are not part of the United Kingdom.

Population
The estimated resident population of an area includes all people who usually live there, whatever their nationality. Members of HM and US Armed Forces in England and Wales are included on residential basis wherever possible. HM Forces stationed outside England and Wales are not included. Students are taken to be resident at their term time addresses.

Further information on population estimates is available on the National Statistics website at: www.statistics.gov.uk/popest

Live births
For England and Wales, figures relate to the number of births occurring in a period; for Scotland and Northern Ireland, figures relate to births registered in a period. By law, births must be registered within 42 days in England and Wales, within 21 days in Scotland, and within 42 days in Northern Ireland. In England and Wales, where a birth is registered later than the legal time period, and too late to be included in the count for the year of occurrence, it will be included in the count for the following year.

Perinatal mortality
In October 1992 the legal definition of a stillbirth was changed, from a baby born dead after 28 completed weeks of gestation or more, to one born dead after 24 completed weeks of gestation or more.

Period expectation of life
The life tables on which these expectations are based use death rates for the given period to describe mortality levels for each year. Each individual year shown is based on a three-year period, so that for instance 1986 represents 1985–87. More details can be found at: www.gad.gov.uk/life_tables/interim_life_tables.htm

Deaths
Figures for England and Wales relate to the number of deaths registered in each year up to 1992, and the number occurring in each year from 1993, though 2006 and provisional 2007 figures relate to the number of registrations. Figures for both Scotland and Northern Ireland relate to the number of deaths registered in each year.

Coding cause of death
Between 1 January 1984 and 31 December 1992, ONS applied its own interpretation of the International Classification of Diseases (ICD) Section Rule 3 in the coding of deaths where terminal events and other 'modes of dying' such as cardiac arrest, cardiac failure, certain thrombembolic disorders, and unspecified pneumonia and bronchopneumonia, were stated by the certifier to be the underlying cause of death and other major pathology appeared on the certificate. In these cases ONS Rule 3 allowed the terminal event to be considered a direct sequel to the major pathology and that primary condition was selected as the underlying cause of death. Prior to 1984 and between 1 January 1993 and 31 December 2000, such certificates were coded to the terminal event. National Statistics also introduced automated coding of cause of death in 1993, which may also affect comparisons of deaths by cause from 1993. Further details can be found in the annual volumes *Mortality statistics: Cause 1984*, Series DH2 no. 11, and *Mortality statistics: Cause 1993* (revised) and 1994, Series DH2 no. 21.

From 1 January 2001, under ICD-10, Rule 3 has again been changed – for details see the article in *Health Statistics Quarterly*13. This has resulted in a fall in the death rates from respiratory diseases, notably pneumonia, and consequently slight rises in the rates for other causes eg. strokes. For details of the major changes between ICD-9 and ICD-10, see the articles in *Health Statistics Quarterly* 08, 13 and 14.

Age-standardised mortality rates
Directly age-standardised rates make allowances for changes in the age structure of the population. The age-standardised rate for a particular condition is that which would have occurred if the observed age-specific rates for the condition had applied in a given standard population. Tables 2.2 and 6.3 use the European Standard Population. This is a hypothetical population standard which is the same for both males and females allowing standardised rates to be compared for each sex, and between males and females.

Abortions
Figures relate to numbers occurring in a period.

Calculating quarterly rates
The denominators used for calculating quarterly rates for births, conceptions and abortions have been produced from mid-year population estimates and projections by linear interpolation.

Marriages and divorces
Marriages are tabulated according to date of solemnisation. Divorces are tabulated according to date of decree absolute. In Scotland a small number of late divorces from previous years are added to the current year. The term 'divorces' includes decrees of nullity. The fact that a marriage or divorce has taken place in England, Wales, Scotland or Northern Ireland does not necessarily mean that either of the parties is resident there.

Civil Partnerships
The Civil Partnership Act 2004 came into force on 5 December 2005 in the UK, the first day couples could give notice of their intention to form a civil partnership. The first day that couples could normally form a partnership was 19 December 2005 in Northern Ireland, 20 December 2005 in Scotland and 21 December 2005 in England and Wales.

Civil partnerships are tabulated according to date of formation and area of occurrence. The fact that a civil partnership has taken place in England, Wales, Scotland or Northern Ireland does not necessarily mean either of the parties is resident there.

Sources
Figures for Scotland and Northern Ireland have been provided by the General Register Office for Scotland and the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency respectively.

Rounding
All figures are rounded independently; constituent parts may not add to totals. Generally numbers and rates per 1,000 population are rounded to one decimal place (for example 123.4); where appropriate, for small figures (below 10.0), two decimal places are given (for example 7.62). Figures which are provisional or estimated are given in less detail (for example 123 or 7.6 respectively) if their reliability does not justify giving the standard amount of detail. Where figures need to be treated with particular caution, an explanation is given as a footnote.

Latest figures
Figures for the latest quarters and years may be provisional and will be updated in future issues when later information becomes available. Where figures are not yet available, cells are left blank.

Table 1.1 Population and vital rates: international

Selected countries

Numbers (thousands)/Rates per thousand

Year	United Kingdom	Austria	Belgium	Cyprus[1]	Czech Republic	Denmark	Estonia	Finland	France	Germany[2]	Greece[3]	Hungary	Irish Republic
Population (thousands)													
1971	55,928	7,501	9,673	..	9,810	4,963	1,369	4,612	51,251	78,313	8,831	10,370	2,992
1976	56,216	7,566	9,818	498	10,094	5,073	1,435	4,726	52,909	78,337	9,167	10,590	3,238
1981	56,357	7,569	9,859	515	10,293	5,121	1,482	4,800	54,182	78,408	9,729	10,712	3,443
1986	56,684	7,588	9,862	545	10,340	5,120	1,534	4,918	55,547	77,720	9,967	10,631	3,543
1991	57,439	7,813	9,979	587	10,309	5,154	1,566	5,014	57,055	79,984	10,247	10,346	3,526
1996	58,164	7,959	10,137	661 [13]	10,315	5,262	1,416	5,125	58,026	81,896	10,709	10,193	3,626 [19]
2001	59,113	8,043	10,287	701 [13]	10,224	5,359	1,364	5,188	59,322	82,340	10,950	10,188	3,839 [19]
2002	59,323 [12]	8,084	10,333	710 [13]	10,201	5,374	1,359	5,201	59,678	82,482	10,988	10,159	3,917 [19]
2003	59,557 [12]	8,118	10,376	721 [13]	10,202	5,387	1,354	5,213	60,028	82,520	11,024	10,130	3,996 [19]
2004	59,846 [12]	8,175	10,421	737 [13]	10,207	5,401	1,349	5,228	60,381	82,501	11,062	10,107	4,044 [19]
2005	60,238 [12]	8,230	10,480	760 [13]	10,230	5,411 [P]	1,350	5,250	60,870	82,470	11,083 [18,P]	10,090	4,130 [19]
2006	60,587	8,266 [18,P]	10,511 [18,P]	766 [13]	10,280 [P]	5,427 [18,P]	1,345 [18,P]	5,270 [P]	61,350 [P]	82,370 [P]	11,125 [18,P]	10,077 [18,P]	4,240 [19]
Population changes (per 1,000 per annum)													
1971–76	1.0	1.7	3.0	..	5.8	4.4	9.6	4.9	6.5	0.1	7.6	4.2	16.4
1976–81	0.5	0.1	0.8	6.8	3.9	1.9	6.6	3.1	4.8	0.2	12.3	2.3	12.7
1981–86	1.2	0.5	0.1	11.7	0.9	0.0	7.0	4.9	5.0	–1.8	4.9	–1.5	5.8
1986–91	2.7	5.9	2.4	15.4	–0.6	1.3	4.2	3.9	5.4	5.8	5.6	–5.4	–1.0
1991–96	2.5	3.7	3.6	25.2	0.1	4.2	–12.4	3.8	3.4	4.8	9.0	–3.0	4.3
1996–01	3.3	2.1	2.6	12.1	–1.8	3.7	–7.3	2.5	4.5	1.1	4.5	–0.1	11.7
2001–02	3.5	5.1	4.5	12.8	–2.2	2.8	–3.7	2.5	6.0	1.7	4.4	–2.8	20.3
2002–03	3.9	4.2	4.2	15.5	0.1	2.4	–3.7	2.3	5.9	0.5	2.4	–2.9	20.2
2003–04	4.8	7.0	4.3	22.2	0.5	2.6	–3.7	2.9	5.9	–0.2	3.4	–2.3	12.0
2004–05	6.6	6.7	5.7	31.2	2.3	1.9	0.7	4.2	8.1	–0.4	1.9	–1.7	21.3
2005–06	5.8	4.4	3.0	7.9	4.9	3.0	–3.7	3.8	7.9	–1.2	3.8	–1.3	..
Live birth rate (per 1,000 population per annum)													
1971–75	14.1	13.3	13.4	17.7	17.8	14.6	15.4	13.1	16.0	10.5	15.8	16.1	22.2
1976–80	12.5	11.5	12.5	19.0	17.1	12.0	15.0	13.6	14.1	10.5	15.6	15.8	21.3
1981–85	12.9	12.0	12.0	20.2	13.5	10.2	15.6	13.4	14.2	10.7	13.3	12.3	19.2
1986–90	13.7	11.6	12.1	18.8	12.7	11.5	15.5	12.7	13.8	9.8	10.6	11.8	15.8
1991–95	13.2	11.8	12.0	16.9	11.1	13.1	10.7	12.9	12.7	10.9	9.9	11.7	14.0
1996–00	12.0	10.2	11.2	13.2	8.8	12.6	8.9	11.3	12.7	9.6	10.2	9.8	14.2
2001	11.3	9.4	11.1	11.6	8.9	12.2	9.3	10.8	13.0	8.9	10.2	9.5	15.1
2002	11.3	9.7	10.8	11.1	9.6	11.9	9.6	10.7	12.8	8.7	9.5	9.5	15.5
2003	11.7	9.5	10.9	11.2	9.2	12.0	9.6	10.9	12.7	8.6	9.5	9.3	15.4
2004	12.1	9.7	11.1	11.3	9.6	11.9	10.4	11.4	12.7	8.6	9.5	9.4	15.3
2005	12.0	9.5	11.2	10.9	10.0	11.9	10.7	11.0	12.7	8.3	9.7	9.7	14.8
2006	12.4	9.3	..	11.4	10.3	..	..	11.2	13.0	8.2	..	..	..
Death rate (per 1,000 population per annum)													
1971–75	11.8	12.6	12.1	9.9	12.4	10.1	11.1	9.5	10.7	12.3	8.6	11.9	11 0
1976–80	11.9	12.3	11.6	10.4	12.5	10.5	12.1	9.3	10.2	12.2	8.8	12.9	10.2
1981–85	11.7	12.0	11.4	10.0	12.8	11.1	12.3	9.3	10.1	12.0	9.0	13.7	9.4
1986–90	11.4	11.1	10.8	10.2	12.4	11.5	11.9	9.8	9.5	11.6	9.3	13.5	9.1
1991–95	11.1	10.4	10.4	9.0	11.6	11.9	13.9	9.8	9.1	10.8	9.5	14.3	8.8
1996–00	10.6	9.7	10.3	7.7	10.8	11.2	13.1	9.6	9.2	10.4	9.7	13.9	8.5
2001	10.2	9.3	10.1	6.9	10.5	10.9	13.6	9.4	9.0	10.1	9.4	13.0	7.9
2002	10.2	9.4	10.2	7.3	10.6	10.9	13.5	9.5	9.2	10.2	9.5	13.1	7.5
2003	10.3	9.5	10.4	7.2	10.9	10.7	13.4	9.4	9.4	10.3	9.6	13.4	7.2
2004	9.7	9.1	9.8	7.1	10.5	10.3	13.2	9.1	8.4	10.0	9.5	13.1	7.0
2005	9.7	9.1	..	7.2	10.6	10.2	12.9	9.1	8.6	10.1	9.5	13.5	6.6
2006	9.5	8.9	..	..	10.2	..	..	9.1	..	9.9	..	..	..

Note:
Estimated population (mid-year), live birth and death rates up to the latest available data, as given in the *United Nations Monthly Bulletin of Statistics (May 2007), the United Nations Demographic Yearbook system*, and the *Eurostat Yearbook 2006 (May 2007).*

1 Republic of Cyprus - Greek Cypriot controlled area only
2 Including former GDR throughout.
3 Greece - mid-year population excludes armed forces stationed outside the country but includes alien forces stationed in the area.
4 Malta - including work and resident permit holders and foreigners residing in Malta.
5 Poland - excluding civilian aliens within the country but including civilian nationals temporarily outside the country. Average year data for 2000 and 2001 contain revised data according to the final results of the population census 2002.
6 Portugal - including the Azores and Madeira islands.
7 Spain - including the Balearic and Canary Islands.
8 The European Union consists of 25 member countries (EU25) - 1 May 2004 (10 new member countries).
9 Including the Indian held part of Jammu and Kashmir, the final status of which has not yet been determined.
10 Japan - excluding diplomatic personnel outside the country and foreign military and civilian personnel and their dependants stationed in the area. Rates are based on births to or deaths of Japanese nationals only.
11 USA - excluding armed forces overseas and civilian citizens absent from the country for extended periods.
12 2002 to 2005 mid-year population estimates for the United Kingdom have been updated to include the latest revised estimates that take into account improved estimates of international migration.
13 Indicates population estimates of uncertain reliability.
14 Figures were updated taking into account the results of the 2002 All Russian Population Census.
15 Mid-year estimates have been adjusted for under-enumeration.
16 For statistical purposes the data for China do not include those for the Hong Kong SAR, Macao SAR and Taiwan province of China. Data for the period 1996 to 2000 have been adjusted on the basis of the Population Census of 2000. Data from 2001 to 2004 have been estimated on the basis of the annual national sample surveys of Population Changes. Estimate of uncertain reliability. Death rates for 1999–2003 and birth rates for 2000–2003 were obtained by the Sample Survey of Population Change 2003 in China.
17 Rate is for 1990–1995.
18 As at 1 January - Eurostat Yearbook 2006 (May 2007).
19 Data refer to 15 April.
p provisional.

Table 1.1 continued **Population and vital rates: international**

Selected countries

Numbers (thousands)/Rates per thousand

Year	United Kingdom	Italy	Latvia	Lithuania	Luxem–bourg	Malta[4]	Nether–lands	Poland[5]	Portugal[6]	Slovakia	Slovenia	Spain[7]	Sweden	EU–25[8]
Population (thousands)														
1971	55,928	54,073	2,366	3,160	342	330	13,194	32,800	8,644	4,540	1,732	34,216	8,098	..
1976	56,216	55,718	2,465	3,315	361	330	13,774	34,360	9,356	4,764	1,809	36,118	8,222	420,258
1981	56,357	56,502	2,515	3,422	365	322	14,247	35,902	9,851	4,996	1,910	37,741	8,320	428,563
1986	56,684	56,596	2,588	3,560	368	344	14,572	37,456	10,011	5,179	1,975	38,536	8,370	433,555
1991	57,439	56,751	2,662	3,742	387	358	15,070	38,245	9,871	5,283	2,002	38,920	8,617	440,927
1996	58,164	56,860	2,457	3,602	414	380	15,530	38,618	10,058	5,374	1,991	39,479	8,841	447,113
2001	59,113	56,978	2,355	3,481	442	393	16,046	38,251	10,293	5,380	1,992	40,721	8,896	452,146
2002	59,323 [12]	57,157	2,339	3,469	446	396	16,149	38,232	10,368	5,379	1,996	41,314	8,925	453,989
2003	59,557 [12]	57,605	2,325	3,454	450	399	16,225	38,195	10,441	5,379	1,997	42,005	8,958	456,059
2004	59,846 [12]	58,175	2,313	3,436	453	401	16,282	38,180	10,502	5,382	1,997	42,692	8,994	458,266
2005	60,238 [12]	58,610	2,306[18,P]	3,410 [P]	460	403[18,P]	16,320	38,174[18,P]	10,550	5,390	2,000	43,400 [P]	9,030	460,645[P]
2006	60,587	58,880 [P]	2,295[18,P]	3,390 [P]	460 [18,P]	404[18,P]	16,340 [P]	38,157[18,P]	10,570[18,P]	5,400 [P]	2,010 [P]	44,100 [P]	9,030 [P]	462,650[P]
Population changes (per 1,000 per annum)														
1971–76	1.0	6.1	8.4	9.8	10.7	0.0	8.8	9.5	16.5	9.9	8.9	11.1	3.1	..
1976–81	0.5	2.8	4.1	6.5	2.5	– 4.8	6.9	9.0	10.6	9.7	11.2	9.0	2.4	4.0
1981–86	1.2	0.3	5.8	8.1	1.8	13.7	4.6	8.7	3.2	7.3	6.8	4.2	1.2	2.3
1986–91	2.7	0.5	5.7	10.2	10.2	8.1	6.8	4.2	–2.8	4.0	2.7	2.0	5.9	3.4
1991–96	2.5	0.4	–12.8	– 1.7	13.9	8.4	6.1	2.0	3.8	3.4	–1.1	2.9	5.1	2.7
1996–01	3.3	0.4	– 8.3	– 6.7	13.5	6.8	6.6	– 1.9	4.7	0.2	0.1	6.3	1.2	2.3
2001–02	3.5	3.1	– 6.8	– 3.4	9.0	7.6	6.4	– 0.5	7.3	–0.2	2.0	14.6	3.3	4.1
2002–03	3.9	7.8	– 6.0	– 4.3	9.0	7.6	4.7	– 1.0	7.0	0.0	0.5	16.7	3.7	4.6
2003–04	4.8	9.9	– 5.2	– 5.2	6.7	5.0	3.5	– 0.4	5.8	0.6	0.0	16.4	4.0	4.8
2004–05	6.6	7.5	– 3.0	– 7.6	15.5	5.0	2.3	– 0.2	4.6	1.5	1.5	16.6	4.0	5.2
2005–06	5.8	4.6	– 4.8	– 5.9	0.0	2.5	1.2	– 0.4	1.9	1.9	5.0	16.1	0.0	4.4
Live birth rate (per 1,000 population per annum)														
1971–75	14.1	16.0	14.4	16.4	11.6	17.5	14.9	17.9	20.3	19.7	16.4	19.2	13.5	..
1976–80	12.5	12.6	13.9	15.4	11.2	17.0	12.6	19.3	17.9	20.3	16.3	17.1	11.6	..
1981–85	12.9	10.6	15.2	16.0	11.6	15.3	12.2	19.0	14.5	18.0	14.2	12.8	11.3	..
1986–90	13.7	9.8	15.3	15.8	12.2	16.0	12.8	15.5	11.9	15.8	12.3	10.8	13.2	..
1991–95	13.2	9.6	10.8	13.1	13.3	14.0	12.8	12.9	11.4	13.3	10.0	9.8	13.3	..
1996–00	12.0	9.2	8.0	10.4	13.1	12.0	12.6	10.4	11.3	10.7	9.1	9.5	10.2	10.6
2001	11.3	9.2	8.3	9.1	12.4	9.8	12.6	9.6	11.0	9.5	8.8	10.0	10.3	10.4
2002	11.3	9.4	8.6	8.7	12.0	9.6	12.5	9.3	11.0	9.5	8.8	.10.2	10.7	10.3
2003	11.7	9.4	9.0	8.9	11.8	9.8	12.3	9.2	10.8	9.6	8.7	10.5	11.1	..
2004	12.1	9.7	8.8	8.9	11.8	9.7	11.9	9.3	10.4	10.0	9.0	10.6	11.2	..
2005	12.0	9.5	9.4	9.0	11.8	9.6	11.5	9.6	10.4	9.3	9.1	10.7	11.2	..
2006	12.4	..	..	9.2	..	..	11.3	..	10.0	..	..	..	11.7	..
Death rate (per 1,000 population per annum)														
1971–75	11.8	9.8	11.6	9.0	12.2	9.0	8.3	8.4	11.0	9.4	10.0	8.5	10.5	..
1976–80	11.9	9.7	12.6	10.1	11.5	9.0	8.1	9.2	10.1	9.8	9.8	8.0	10.9	..
1981–85	11.7	9.5	12.8	10.6	11.2	8.2	8.3	9.6	9.6	10.1	10.3	7.7	11.0	..
1986–90	11.4	9.4	12.4	10.3	10.5	7.4	8.5	10.0	9.6	10.1	9.6	8.2	11.1	..
1991–95	11.1	9.7	14.8	12.0	9.8	7.6	8.8	10.2	10.4	9.9	9.7	8.7	10.9	..
1996–00	10.6	9.8	13.9	11.5	9.0	7.7	8.8	9.8	10.5	9.7	9.5	9.1	10.6	10.0
2001	10.2	9.6	14.0	11.6	8.4	7.6	8.7	9.5	10.2	9.7	9.3	8.9	10.5	9.7
2002	10.2	9.8	13.9	11.8	8.4	7.8	8.8	9.4	10.2	9.6	9.4	8.9	10.6	9.8
2003	10.3	10.2	13.9	11.9	9.0	7.7	8.7	9.6	10.4	9.7	9.7	9.2	10.4	..
2004	9.7	9.4	13.9	12.0	7.6	7.2	8.4	9.5	9.7	9.6	9.3	8.2	10.1	..
2005	9.7	9.7	14.2	12.8	8.0	..	8.4	9.7	..	9.9	9.4	8.9	10.2	..
2006	9.5	..	..	13.2	..	..	8.3	..	9.7	..	..	..	10.0	..

See notes on first page of table.

Table 1.1 continued Population and vital rates: international

Selected countries

Numbers (thousands)/Rates per thousand

Year	United Kingdom	EU–25[8]	Russian Federation	Australia	Canada	New Zealand	China	India[9]	Japan[10]	USA[11]
Population (thousands)										
1971	55,928	..	130,934	13,067	22,026	2,899	852,290 [16]	551,311	105,145	207,661
1976	56,216	420,258	135,027	14,033	23,517	3,163	937,170 [16]	617,248	113,094	218,035
1981	56,357	428,563	139,225	14,923	24,900	3,195	1,008,460 [16]	675,185	117,902	229,958
1986	56,684	433,555	144,154	16,018	26,204	3,317	1,086,733 [16]	767,199	121,672	240,680
1991	57,439	440,927	148,245	17,284	28,031	3,477	1,170,100 [16]	851,897	123,964	252,639
1996	58,164	447,113	148,160[14]	18,311[15]	29,611[15]	3,732	1,217,550 [16]	942,157 [13]	125,757	269,394
2001	59,113	452,146	145,976[14]	19,413[15]	31,021[15]	3,880	1,271,850 [16]	1,035,066 [13]	127,130	285,108
2002	59,323 [12]	453,989	145,306 [14]	19,641[15]	31,373[15]	3,939	1,280,400 [16]	1,050,640 [13]	127,400	287,985
2003	59,557 [12]	456,059	144,566 [14]	19,873[15]	31,669[15]	4,009	1,288,400 [16]	1,068,214 [13]	127,650	290,850
2004	59,846 [12]	458,266	143,821 [14]	20,111[15]	32,974[15]	4,061	1,296,075 [16]	1,085,600 [13]	127,670	293,623
2005	60,238 [12]	460,645[P]	143,500 [14]	20,330[15,P]	32,270[15,P]	4,100	1,303,720 [16]	1,097,000 [13]	127,770	296,410
2006	60,587	462,650[P]	..	20,610[15,P]	32,620[15,P]	4,140 [P]	..	..	127,760	..
Population changes (per 1,000 per annum)										
1971–76	1.0	..	6.3	14.8	13.5	18.2	19.9	23.9	15.1	10.0
1976–81	0.5	4.0	6.2	12.7	11.8	2.0	15.2	18.8	8.5	10.9
1981–86	1.2	2.3	7.1	14.7	10.5	7.6	15.5	27.3	6.4	9.3
1986–91	2.7	3.4	5.7	15.8	13.9	9.6	15.3	22.1	3.8	9.9
1991–96	2.5	2.7	–1.7	11.9	11.3	14.7	10.3	21.1	2.9	12.1
1996–01	3.3	2.3	–2.9	12.0	9.5	7.9	8.9	19.7	2.2	11.7
2001–02	3.5	4.1	– 4.6	11.7	11.3	15.2	6.7	15.0	2.1	10.1
2002–03	3.9	4.6	– 5.1	11.8	9.4	17.8	6.2	16.7	2.0	9.9
2003–04	4.8	4.8	– 5.2	12.0	9.6	13.0	6.0	16.3	0.2	9.5
2004–05	6.6	5.2	– 2.2	10.9	9.3	9.6	5.9	10.5	0.8	9.5
2005–06	5.8	4.4	..	13.8	10.8	9.8	..	..	–0.1	..
Live birth rate (per 1,000 population per annum)										
1971–75	14.1	..	..	18.8	15.9	20.4	27.2	35.6	18.6	15.3
1976–80	12.5	..	..	15.7	15.5	16.8	18.6	33.4	14.9	15.2
1981–85	12.9	..	..	15.6	15.1	15.8	19.2	..	12.6	15.7
1986–90	13.7	..	..	15.1	14.8	17.1	..	..	10.6	16.0
1991–95	13.2	..	10.2	..	..	..	18.5 [17]	..	..	..
1996–00	12.0	10.6	8.6	13.4	11.4	14.9	..	..	9.5	14.3
2001	11.3	10.4	9.0	12.7	10.8	14.4	13.4 [16]	25.4	9.2	14.1
2002	11.3	10.3	9.6	12.8	10.5	13.7	12.9 [16]	25.0	9.1	13.9
2003	11.7	..	10.2	12.6	10.6	14.0	12.4 [16]	24.8	8.8	14.1
2004	12.1	..	10.5	12.7	10.5	14.3	12.3 [16]	24.1	8.7	14.0
2005	12.0	..	..	12.9	..	..	..	..	..	..
2006	12.4	..	..	12.9	..	..	..	..	..	..
Death rate (per 1,000 population per annum)										
1971–75	11.8	..	..	8.2	7.4	8.4	7.3	15.5	6.4	9.1
1976–80	11.9	..	..	7.6	7.2	8.2	6.6	13.8	6.1	8.7
1981–85	11.7	..	..	7.3	7.0	8.1	6.7	..	6.1	8.6
1986–90	11.4	..	..	7.2	7.3	8.2	..	..	6.4	8.7
1991–95	11.1	..	13.7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1996–00	10.6	10.0	14.3	6.9	7.2	7.2	..	..	7.4	8.5
2001	10.2	9.7	15.4	6.6	7.1	7.2	6.4 [16]	8.4	7.6	8.5
2002	10.2	9.8	16.1	6.8	7.1	7.1	6.4 [16]	8.1	7.7	8.5
2003	10.3	..	16.4	6.7	7.1	7.0	6.4 [16]	8.0	8.0	8.4
2004	9.7	..	16.0	6.6	7.3	7.0	6.4 [16]	7.5	8.1	8.2
2005	9.7	..	..	6.4	..	..	..	..	..	..
2006	9.5	..	..	6.5	..	..	..	..	..	..

See notes on first page of table.

Table 1.2 Population: national

Constituent countries of the United Kingdom

Numbers (thousands) and percentage age distribution

Mid-year	United Kingdom	Great Britain	England and Wales	England	Wales	Scotland	Northern Ireland
Estimates							
1971	55,928	54,388	49,152	46,412	2,740	5,236	1,540
1976	56,216	54,693	49,459	46,660	2,799	5,233	1,524
1981	56,357	54,815	49,634	46,821	2,813	5,180	1,543
1986	56,684	55,110	49,999	47,188	2,811	5,112	1,574
1991	57,439	55,831	50,748	47,875	2,873	5,083	1,607
1993	57,714	56,078	50,986	48,102	2,884	5,092	1,636
1994	57,862	56,218	51,116	48,229	2,887	5,102	1,644
1995	58,025	56,376	51,272	48,383	2,889	5,104	1,649
1996	58,164	56,503	51,410	48,519	2,891	5,092	1,662
1997	58,314	56,643	51,560	48,665	2,895	5,083	1,671
1998	58,475	56,797	51,720	48,821	2,900	5,077	1,678
1999	58,684	57,005	51,933	49,033	2,901	5,072	1,679
2000	58,886	57,203	52,140	49,233	2,907	5,063	1,683
2001	59,113	57,424	52,360	49,450	2,910	5,064	1,689
2002 [1]	59,323	57,627	52,572	49,652	2,920	5,055	1,697
2003 [1]	59,557	57,855	52,797	49,866	2,931	5,057	1,703
2004 [1]	59,846	58,136	53,057	50,111	2,946	5,078	1,710
2005 [1]	60,238	58,514	53,419	50,466	2,954	5,095	1,724
2006	60,587	58,846	53,729	50,763	2,966	5,117	1,742
2005 by age group **(percentages)**							
0–4	*5.8*	*5.8*	*5.8*	*5.8*	*5.4*	*5.2*	*6.4*
5–15	*13.3*	*13.2*	*13.3*	*13.2*	*13.5*	*12.8*	*15.4*
16–44	*40.2*	*40.2*	*40.3*	*40.4*	*37.5*	*39.5*	*41.3*
45–64M/59F	*22.0*	*22.0*	*21.9*	*21.9*	*22.9*	*23.3*	*20.6*
65M/60F–74	*11.0*	*11.1*	*11.0*	*10.9*	*12.2*	*11.7*	*10.0*
75 and over	*7.7*	*7.7*	*7.8*	*7.7*	*8.5*	*7.5*	*6.3*
Projections[2]							
2006	60,587	58,846	53,729	50,763	2,966	5,117	1,742
2011	62,761	60,950	55,744	52,706	3,038	5,206	1,812
2016	64,975	63,107	57,837	54,724	3,113	5,270	1,868
2021	67,191	65,269	59,943	56,757	3,186	5,326	1,922
2026	69,260	67,294	61,931	58,682	3,248	5,363	1,966
2031	71,100	69,101	63,727	60,432	3,296	5,374	1,999
2031 by age group **(percentages)**							
0–4	*5.5*	*5.5*	*5.6*	*5.6*	*5.1*	*4.7*	*5.7*
5–15	*12.4*	*12.4*	*12.5*	*12.5*	*12.1*	*11.2*	*13.4*
16–44	*36.4*	*36.4*	*36.6*	*36.8*	*33.7*	*34.3*	*35.5*
45–64[3]	*23.4*	*23.4*	*23.3*	*23.3*	*23.5*	*24.4*	*23.9*
65–74[3]	*10.6*	*10.6*	*10.5*	*10.4*	*12.0*	*12.4*	*10.7*
75 and over	*11.6*	*11.6*	*11.5*	*11.4*	*13.7*	*12.9*	*10.9*

Note: Figures may not add exactly due to rounding.

1 2002 to 2005 mid-year population estimates for England and Wales and the United Kingdom have been updated to include the latest revised estimates that take into account improved estimates of international migration.

2 National projections based on mid-2006 population estimates.

3 Between 2010 and 2020, state retirement age will change from 65 years for men and 60 years for women to 65 years for both sexes.
Between 2024 and 2026, state pension age will increase from 65 years to 66 years for both men and women.

Table 1.3 Population: subnational

Government Office Regions of England

Numbers (thousands) and percentage age distribution

Mid-year	North East	North West	Yorkshire and The Humber	East Midlands	West Midlands	East	London	South East	South West
Estimates									
1971	2,679	7,108	4,902	3,652	5,146	4,454	7,529	6,830	4,112
1976	2,671	7,043	4,924	3,774	5,178	4,672	7,089	7,029	4,280
1981	2,636	6,940	4,918	3,853	5,187	4,854	6,806	7,245	4,381
1986	2,594	6,833	4,884	3,908	5,180	4,999	6,774	7,468	4,548
1991	2,587	6,843	4,936	4,011	5,230	5,121	6,829	7,629	4,688
1993	2,594	6,847	4,954	4,056	5,246	5,154	6,844	7,673	4,734
1994	2,589	6,839	4,960	4,072	5,249	5,178	6,874	7,712	4,757
1995	2,583	6,828	4,961	4,092	5,257	5,206	6,913	7,763	4,782
1996	2,576	6,810	4,961	4,108	5,263	5,233	6,974	7,800	4,793
1997	2,568	6,794	4,958	4,120	5,262	5,267	7,015	7,853	4,827
1998	2,561	6,792	4,958	4,133	5,271	5,302	7,065	7,889	4,849
1999	2,550	6,773	4,956	4,152	5,272	5,339	7,154	7,955	4,881
2000	2,543	6,774	4,959	4,168	5,270	5,375	7,237	7,991	4,917
2001	2,540	6,773	4,977	4,190	5,281	5,400	7,322	8,023	4,943
2002 [1]	2,541	6,778	5,002	4,222	5,295	5,433	7,362	8,047	4,973
2003 [1]	2,541	6,800	5,028	4,254	5,312	5,475	7,364	8,087	5,005
2004 [1]	2,542	6,820	5,064	4,291	5,327	5,511	7,389	8,125	5,042
2005 [1]	2,550	6,840	5,108	4,328	5,351	5,563	7,456	8,185	5,087
2006	2,556	6,853	5,142	4,364	5,367	5,607	7,512	8,238	5,124
2005 by age group **(percentages)**									
0–4	*5.4*	*5.7*	*5.7*	*5.5*	*6.0*	*5.8*	*6.8*	*5.7*	*5.2*
5–15	*13.0*	*13.6*	*13.3*	*13.3*	*13.7*	*13.5*	*12.4*	*13.5*	*12.8*
16–44	*39.0*	*39.5*	*40.2*	*39.5*	*39.2*	*38.7*	*48.5*	*39.0*	*37.1*
45–64M/59F	*23.0*	*22.3*	*22.0*	*22.6*	*21.9*	*22.5*	*18.5*	*22.5*	*23.0*
65M/60F–74	*11.7*	*11.3*	*11.1*	*11.3*	*11.4*	*11.4*	*8.1*	*11.1*	*12.4*
75 and over	*7.9*	*7.6*	*7.6*	*7.8*	*7.8*	*8.1*	*5.7*	*8.2*	*9.4*
Projections[2]									
2006	2,543	6,863	5,125	4,355	5,362	5,604	7,512	8,228	5,122
2011	2,544	6,959	5,259	4,496	5,438	5,808	7,723	8,440	5,302
2016	2,549	7,066	5,398	4,637	5,522	6,014	7,946	8,661	5,484
2021	2,557	7,178	5,536	4,779	5,612	6,221	8,160	8,891	5,672
2026	2,562	7,276	5,664	4,910	5,692	6,412	8,344	9,111	5,851
2029	2,562	7,323	5,730	4,977	5,732	6,515	8,443	9,229	5,947
2029 by age group **(percentages)**									
0–4	*4.9*	*5.3*	*5.3*	*5.1*	*5.6*	*5.3*	*6.4*	*5.3*	*4.7*
5–15	*11.6*	*12.1*	*12.1*	*11.8*	*12.6*	*12.1*	*12.0*	*12.1*	*11.2*
16–44	*34.7*	*35.9*	*36.5*	*34.5*	*35.3*	*34.3*	*44.3*	*35.2*	*33.0*
45–64[3]	*24.3*	*24.5*	*24.2*	*25.0*	*24.1*	*24.9*	*23.5*	*24.7*	*25.0*
65–74[3]	*12.2*	*11.0*	*10.8*	*11.5*	*10.7*	*11.1*	*7.3*	*10.8*	*12.2*
75 and over	*12.3*	*11.2*	*11.1*	*12.2*	*11.7*	*12.3*	*6.5*	*11.9*	*13.8*

Note: Figures may not add exactly due to rounding.

1 2002 to 2005 mid-year population estimates for England and Wales and the United Kingdom have been updated to include the latest revised estimates that take into account improved estimates of international migration.

2 These projections are based on the revised mid-2004 population estimates and are consistent with the 2004-based national projections produced by the Government Actuary's Department.

3 Between 2010 and 2020, state retirement age will change from 65 years for men and 60 years for women to 65 years for both sexes.
Between 2024 and 2026, state pension age will increase from 65 years to 66 years for both men and women.

Table 1.4 Population: age and sex

Constituent countries of the United Kingdom

Numbers (thousands)

Mid-year	All ages	Age group														
		Under 1	1–4	5–14	15–24	25–34	35–44	45–59	60–64	65–74	75–84	85–89	90 and over	Under 16	16–64M/59F[1]	65M/60F[1] and over
United Kingdom																
Persons																
1981	56,357	730	2,726	8,147	9,019	8,010	6,774	9,540	2,935	5,195	2,677	..	..	12,543	33,780	10,035
1986	56,684	748	2,886	7,143	9,200	8,007	7,711	9,212	3,069	5,020	2,971	716	..	11,645	34,725	10,313
1991	57,439	790	3,077	7,141	8,168	8,898	7,918	9,500	2,888	5,067	3,119	626	248	11,685	35,197	10,557
1996	58,164	719	3,019	7,544	7,231	9,131	7,958	10,553	2,785	5,066	3,129	711	317	12,018	35,498	10,649
2000	58,886	682	2,869	7,652	7,139	8,646	8,678	11,011	2,900	4,940	3,249	755	364	11,959	36,138	10,788
2001	59,113	663	2,819	7,624	7,261	8,475	8,846	11,168	2,884	4,947	3,296	753	377	11,863	36,406	10,845
2002[2]	59,323	661	2,753	7,603	7,400	8,264	9,004	11,307	2,892	4,967	3,344	738	388	11,785	36,622	10,916
2003[2]	59,557	680	2,706	7,546	7,573	8,084	9,105	11,412	2,949	5,001	3,398	706	399	11,720	36,826	11,012
2004[2]	59,846	705	2,686	7,475	7,739	7,954	9,185	11,507	3,027	5,028	3,431	702	409	11,645	37,083	11,117
2005[2]	60,238	716	2,713	7,373	7,886	7,935	9,245	11,616	3,114	5,046	3,420	755	419	11,589	37,418	11,232
2006	60,587	732	2,765	7,241	8,020	7,896	9,262	11,744	3,240	5,029	3,416	820	423	11,537	37,707	11,344
Males																
1981	27,412	374	1,400	4,184	4,596	4,035	3,409	4,711	1,376	2,264	922	..	..	6,439	17,646	3,327
1986	27,542	384	1,478	3,664	4,663	4,022	3,864	4,572	1,463	2,206	1,060	166	..	5,968	18,142	3,432
1991	27,909	403	1,572	3,655	4,146	4,432	3,949	4,732	1,390	2,272	1,146	166	46	5,976	18,303	3,630
1996	28,287	369	1,547	3,857	3,652	4,540	3,954	5,244	1,360	2,311	1,187	201	65	6,148	18,375	3,764
2000	28,690	350	1,469	3,920	3,606	4,292	4,298	5,457	1,420	2,294	1,278	225	81	6,128	18,685	3,878
2001	28,832	338	1,445	3,906	3,672	4,215	4,382	5,534	1,412	2,308	1,308	227	85	6,077	18,827	3,928
2002[2]	28,964	338	1,408	3,897	3,758	4,114	4,462	5,594	1,414	2,325	1,338	226	89	6,037	18,949	3,978
2003[2]	29,109	349	1,384	3,868	3,855	4,024	4,514	5,646	1,440	2,347	1,369	219	94	6,006	19,075	4,028
2004[2]	29,278	362	1,376	3,832	3,953	3,960	4,546	5,691	1,479	2,365	1,392	223	98	5,971	19,229	4,078
2005[2]	29,497	367	1,389	3,781	4,030	3,952	4,581	5,745	1,522	2,380	1,400	247	103	5,941	19,426	4,130
2006	29,694	374	1,416	3,709	4,108	3,940	4,586	5,804	1,584	2,379	1,413	273	106	5,912	19,611	4,171
Females																
1981	28,946	356	1,327	3,963	4,423	3,975	3,365	4,829	1,559	2,931	1,756	..	..	6,104	16,134	6,708
1986	29,142	364	1,408	3,480	4,538	3,985	3,847	4,639	1,606	2,814	1,911	550	..	5,678	16,583	6,881
1991	29,530	387	1,505	3,487	4,021	4,466	3,968	4,769	1,498	2,795	1,972	460	202	5,709	16,894	6,927
1996	29,877	350	1,472	3,687	3,579	4,591	4,005	5,309	1,426	2,755	1,942	509	252	5,870	17,123	6,885
2000	30,196	333	1,399	3,732	3,533	4,353	4,380	5,554	1,481	2,646	1,971	530	283	5,832	17,453	6,911
2001	30,281	324	1,375	3,718	3,589	4,260	4,465	5,634	1,473	2,640	1,987	526	292	5,786	17,579	6,917
2002[2]	30,359	323	1,346	3,706	3,642	4,150	4,542	5,713	1,478	2,642	2,006	513	299	5,748	17,673	6,938
2003[2]	30,449	331	1,322	3,678	3,718	4,060	4,590	5,766	1,509	2,654	2,029	487	305	5,714	17,751	6,984
2004[2]	30,568	343	1,310	3,642	3,785	3,993	4,639	5,816	1,548	2,662	2,040	479	310	5,674	17,854	7,039
2005[2]	30,741	349	1,324	3,592	3,856	3,983	4,663	5,871	1,591	2,666	2,020	509	316	5,647	17,992	7,102
2006	30,893	357	1,349	3,532	3,912	3,956	4,675	5,940	1,656	2,650	2,002	547	317	5,625	18,096	7,172
England and Wales																
Persons																
1981	49,634	634	2,372	7,085	7,873	7,086	5,996	8,433	2,607	4,619	2,388	383	157	10,910	29,796	8,928
1986	49,999	654	2,522	6,226	8,061	7,052	6,856	8,136	2,725	4,470	2,655	461	182	10,161	30,647	9,190
1991	50,748	698	2,713	6,248	7,165	7,862	7,022	8,407	2,553	4,506	2,790	561	223	10,247	31,100	9,400
1996	51,410	637	2,668	6,636	6,336	8,076	7,017	9,363	2,457	4,496	2,801	639	285	10,584	31,353	9,474
2000	52,140	607	2,544	6,757	6,275	7,682	7,661	9,764	2,564	4,372	2,907	680	328	10,572	31,977	9,591
2001	52,360	589	2,502	6,740	6,387	7,536	7,816	9,898	2,549	4,377	2,947	677	340	10,495	32,226	9,639
2002[2]	52,572	589	2,445	6,728	6,518	7,357	7,964	10,018	2,555	4,394	2,989	664	351	10,437	32,435	9,700
2003[2]	52,797	607	2,404	6,682	6,679	7,203	8,058	10,104	2,606	4,422	3,037	634	360	10,388	32,626	9,783
2004[2]	53,057	629	2,390	6,618	6,836	7,090	8,133	10,177	2,675	4,445	3,063	632	370	10,326	32,856	9,875
2005[2]	53,419	639	2,415	6,528	6,974	7,078	8,194	10,264	2,757	4,461	3,052	680	379	10,278	33,164	9,977
2006	53,729	653	2,462	6,412	7,095	7,040	8,213	10,369	2,874	4,444	3,045	740	382	10,235	33,417	10,077
Males																
1981	24,160	324	1,218	3,639	4,011	3,569	3,024	4,178	1,227	2,020	825	94	32	5,601	15,589	2,970
1986	24,311	335	1,292	3,194	4,083	3,542	3,438	4,053	1,302	1,972	951	115	35	5,208	16,031	3,072
1991	24,681	356	1,385	3,198	3,638	3,920	3,504	4,199	1,234	2,027	1,029	150	42	5,240	16,193	3,248
1996	25,030	327	1,368	3,393	3,202	4,020	3,489	4,659	1,205	2,059	1,067	182	59	5,416	16,247	3,367
2000	25,438	311	1,303	3,462	3,172	3,823	3,802	4,842	1,259	2,040	1,148	204	73	5,416	16,556	3,466
2001	25,574	301	1,281	3,453	3,231	3,758	3,881	4,907	1,252	2,052	1,175	206	77	5,376	16,688	3,510
2002[2]	25,704	301	1,249	3,448	3,311	3,672	3,957	4,958	1,253	2,067	1,202	204	81	5,346	16,804	3,554
2003[2]	25,841	312	1,230	3,425	3,399	3,594	4,007	5,002	1,276	2,085	1,229	198	85	5,324	16,920	3,597
2004[2]	25,995	323	1,225	3,394	3,493	3,538	4,036	5,037	1,310	2,100	1,248	202	89	5,295	17,060	3,640
2005[2]	26,197	327	1,237	3,348	3,565	3,530	4,073	5,080	1,351	2,113	1,256	224	94	5,270	17,241	3,685
2006	26,371	334	1,261	3,284	3,636	3,517	4,080	5,130	1,407	2,111	1,267	248	96	5,245	17,405	3,722
Females																
1981	25,474	310	1,154	3,446	3,863	3,517	2,972	4,255	1,380	2,599	1,564	289	126	5,309	14,207	5,958
1986	25,687	319	1,231	3,032	3,978	3,509	3,418	4,083	1,422	2,498	1,704	346	148	4,953	14,616	6,118
1991	26,067	342	1,328	3,050	3,527	3,943	3,517	4,208	1,319	2,479	1,761	411	181	5,007	14,908	6,152
1996	26,381	310	1,300	3,243	3,134	4,056	3,528	4,704	1,252	2,437	1,734	457	227	5,168	15,106	6,107
2000	26,702	296	1,241	3,296	3,103	3,859	3,859	4,923	1,304	2,332	1,758	476	255	5,155	15,421	6,126
2001	26,786	288	1,220	3,287	3,156	3,778	3,935	4,992	1,297	2,326	1,771	471	263	5,119	15,538	6,129
2002[2]	26,868	287	1,195	3,280	3,207	3,685	4,007	5,060	1,302	2,328	1,787	460	270	5,091	15,631	6,146
2003[2]	26,956	295	1,175	3,256	3,280	3,610	4,051	5,103	1,329	2,338	1,807	436	275	5,064	15,705	6,186
2004[2]	27,062	306	1,165	3,224	3,342	3,552	4,097	5,141	1,365	2,345	1,815	430	280	5,031	15,796	6,235
2005[2]	27,223	312	1,178	3,180	3,409	3,548	4,121	5,183	1,406	2,348	1,796	456	285	5,008	15,922	6,292
2006	27,358	319	1,201	3,127	3,458	3,523	4,134	5,239	1,466	2,333	1,778	492	286	4,990	16,012	6,355

Note: Figures may not add exactly due to rounding.

1 Between 2010 and 2020, state retirement age will change from 65 years for men and 60 years for women to 65 years for both sexes.

2 2002 to 2005 mid-year population estimates for England and Wales and the United Kingdom have been updated to include the latest revised estimates that take into account improved estimates of international migration.

Tel no. for all enquiries relating to population estimates:- 01329 813318

Table 1.4 continued **Population: age and sex**

Constituent countries of the United Kingdom

Numbers (thousands)

Mid-year	All ages	Age group														
		Under 1	1–4	5–14	15–24	25–34	35–44	45–59	60–64	65–74	75–84	85–89	90 and over	Under 16	16–64M/59F[1]	65M/65F[1] and over
England																
Persons																
1981	46,821	598	2,235	6,678	7,440	6,703	5,663	7,948	2,449	4,347	2,249	362	149	10,285	28,133	8,403
1986	47,188	618	2,380	5,869	7,623	6,682	6,478	7,672	2,559	4,199	2,501	435	172	9,583	28,962	8,643
1991	47,875	660	2,560	5,885	6,772	7,460	6,633	7,920	2,399	4,222	2,626	529	210	9,658	29,390	8,827
1996	48,519	603	2,523	6,255	5,985	7,667	6,638	8,822	2,310	4,217	2,631	602	269	9,985	29,639	8,895
2000	49,233	575	2,406	6,375	5,923	7,304	7,257	9,199	2,411	4,107	2,727	641	309	9,980	30,243	9,010
2001	49,450	558	2,366	6,359	6,032	7,171	7,407	9,327	2,395	4,113	2,764	638	321	9,908	30,487	9,055
2002[2]	49,652	559	2,313	6,348	6,153	7,003	7,550	9,439	2,399	4,129	2,803	625	331	9,855	30,686	9,111
2003[2]	49,866	576	2,275	6,305	6,304	6,859	7,641	9,522	2,445	4,155	2,850	596	340	9,812	30,867	9,188
2004[2]	50,111	597	2,262	6,245	6,450	6,751	7,712	9,591	2,509	4,175	2,875	593	349	9,755	31,083	9,273
2005[2]	50,466	606	2,289	6,161	6,583	6,742	7,772	9,675	2,586	4,189	2,865	638	357	9,713	31,384	9,370
2006	50,763	620	2,335	6,051	6,696	6,708	7,793	9,777	2,697	4,171	2,860	695	360	9,674	31,627	9,462
Males																
1981	22,795	306	1,147	3,430	3,790	3,377	2,856	3,938	1,154	1,902	777	89	30	5,280	14,717	2,798
1986	22,949	317	1,219	3,010	3,862	3,357	3,249	3,822	1,224	1,853	897	108	33	4,911	15,147	2,891
1991	23,291	336	1,307	3,011	3,439	3,721	3,311	3,957	1,159	1,900	970	141	39	4,938	15,302	3,050
1996	23,629	309	1,294	3,198	3,023	3,818	3,302	4,390	1,133	1,932	1,003	172	55	5,110	15,358	3,161
2000	24,030	294	1,232	3,266	2,995	3,638	3,604	4,562	1,184	1,917	1,078	192	69	5,113	15,661	3,256
2001	24,166	285	1,212	3,257	3,053	3,580	3,681	4,624	1,176	1,928	1,103	194	73	5,075	15,793	3,298
2002[2]	24,290	286	1,182	3,253	3,127	3,500	3,755	4,673	1,176	1,942	1,128	193	77	5,047	15,904	3,339
2003[2]	24,419	296	1,163	3,232	3,209	3,425	3,803	4,715	1,197	1,958	1,154	186	80	5,028	16,012	3,379
2004[2]	24,563	306	1,159	3,202	3,297	3,371	3,831	4,748	1,228	1,972	1,172	190	84	5,001	16,143	3,419
2005[2]	24,758	310	1,172	3,160	3,365	3,365	3,868	4,791	1,267	1,984	1,179	210	88	4,979	16,317	3,461
2006	24,926	317	1,196	3,100	3,432	3,353	3,875	4,839	1,320	1,981	1,190	233	91	4,957	16,475	3,494
Females																
1981	24,026	292	1,088	3,248	3,650	3,327	2,807	4,009	1,295	2,445	1,472	273	119	5,004	13,416	5,605
1986	24,239	301	1,161	2,859	3,761	3,325	3,229	3,850	1,335	2,346	1,604	326	140	4,672	13,815	5,752
1991	24,584	324	1,253	2,873	3,333	3,739	3,322	3,964	1,239	2,323	1,656	388	171	4,720	14,088	5,777
1996	24,890	293	1,229	3,056	2,961	3,849	3,336	4,432	1,177	2,286	1,628	430	214	4,876	14,281	5,734
2000	25,203	281	1,174	3,109	2,928	3,667	3,653	4,637	1,227	2,190	1,649	448	240	4,867	14,582	5,755
2001	25,284	273	1,154	3,102	2,979	3,591	3,726	4,702	1,219	2,185	1,661	444	248	4,834	14,694	5,757
2002[2]	25,362	273	1,131	3,095	3,026	3,503	3,795	4,767	1,223	2,187	1,676	433	254	4,808	14,782	5,772
2003[2]	25,448	280	1,112	3,073	3,095	3,433	3,838	4,808	1,248	2,197	1,696	410	260	4,784	14,854	5,809
2004[2]	25,548	291	1,103	3,043	3,153	3,380	3,881	4,843	1,280	2,203	1,703	403	264	4,753	14,940	5,854
2005[2]	25,708	296	1,117	3,001	3,218	3,378	3,905	4,885	1,319	2,206	1,686	428	269	4,733	15,066	5,908
2006	25,837	303	1,139	2,952	3,264	3,355	3,918	4,938	1,377	2,190	1,670	461	270	4,717	15,152	5,968
Wales																
Persons																
1981	2,813	36	136	407	434	383	333	485	158	272	139	21	8	626	1,663	525
1986	2,811	37	143	357	438	369	378	464	166	271	154	26	10	578	1,686	547
1991	2,873	38	153	363	393	402	389	486	154	284	164	32	13	589	1,711	573
1996	2,891	34	146	381	352	409	379	541	147	279	170	37	17	598	1,714	578
2000	2,907	32	138	383	352	378	403	565	152	265	180	39	19	591	1,734	581
2001	2,910	32	136	382	356	365	409	572	154	264	183	39	20	587	1,739	584
2002[2]	2,920	30	132	380	365	354	414	578	156	265	185	39	20	582	1,749	589
2003[2]	2,931	31	129	377	376	345	417	582	161	268	187	38	21	577	1,759	595
2004[2]	2,946	32	127	373	385	339	421	586	166	270	188	39	21	572	1,773	602
2005[2]	2,954	32	126	367	390	335	421	589	171	271	186	42	21	566	1,780	608
2006	2,966	33	127	361	399	332	421	592	177	273	186	45	22	561	1,790	615
Males																
1981	1,365	18	70	209	221	193	168	240	73	118	48	5	2	321	871	173
1986	1,362	19	73	184	221	186	190	231	79	119	54	7	2	297	885	181
1991	1,391	20	78	186	199	199	194	242	74	128	60	8	2	302	891	198
1996	1,401	17	74	195	179	203	187	269	72	128	64	10	3	306	890	206
2000	1,408	16	71	196	177	185	198	280	75	124	71	12	4	303	895	210
2001	1,409	16	69	196	179	178	200	283	75	124	73	12	4	301	895	212
2002[2]	1,414	16	68	195	184	172	202	285	77	125	74	12	5	299	900	215
2003[2]	1,423	16	66	194	190	168	204	287	79	127	75	11	5	296	908	218
2004[2]	1,432	16	65	192	196	166	205	288	82	128	76	12	5	294	917	221
2005[2]	1,439	17	65	189	200	166	205	290	84	129	77	13	5	291	924	224
2006	1,445	17	65	185	204	164	205	291	87	130	77	15	5	288	929	227
Females																
1981	1,448	18	66	199	213	190	165	246	85	154	91	16	6	305	791	352
1986	1,449	18	70	173	217	184	188	233	87	152	100	20	8	282	801	366
1991	1,482	19	75	177	194	203	195	244	80	156	104	24	10	288	820	375
1996	1,490	16	71	186	173	206	192	272	75	151	106	27	13	293	825	373
2000	1,499	15	67	186	175	192	206	285	77	142	109	28	15	288	840	371
2001	1,502	15	66	186	177	187	209	289	78	141	110	27	15	286	844	372
2002[2]	1,506	15	65	185	181	182	212	293	80	140	111	27	16	283	849	374
2003[2]	1,508	15	63	183	185	176	214	295	82	141	112	27	16	280	851	377
2004[2]	1,514	15	62	182	189	172	216	298	84	142	112	26	16	278	856	380
2005[2]	1,515	16	61	179	191	170	216	299	87	142	110	28	16	275	856	383
2006	1,521	16	62	176	195	168	216	301	90	143	108	30	16	273	861	387

See notes on first page of table.

Table 1.4 continued **Population: age and sex**

Constituent countries of the United Kingdom

Numbers (thousands)

Mid-year	All ages	Age group														
		Under 1	1–4	5–14	15–24	25–34	35–44	45–59	60–64	65–74	75–84	85–89	90 and over	Under 16	16–64M/59F[1]	65M/60F[1] and over
Scotland																
Persons																
1981	5,180	69	249	780	875	724	603	880	260	460	232	35	14	1,188	3,110	882
1986	5,112	66	257	656	863	739	665	849	273	435	252	42	15	1,061	3,161	890
1991	5,083	66	258	634	746	795	696	853	265	441	259	51	19	1,021	3,151	912
1996	5,092	59	252	643	651	798	722	925	259	448	256	57	24	1,019	3,151	922
2000	5,063	53	230	636	628	717	774	962	263	445	267	59	28	985	3,141	937
2001	5,064	52	224	629	633	696	782	979	262	447	272	59	29	970	3,150	944
2002	5,055	51	217	622	639	669	788	993	262	449	276	58	30	955	3,150	950
2003	5,057	52	212	614	648	648	793	1,008	265	452	281	55	31	943	3,156	958
2004	5,078	54	210	609	653	635	796	1,025	270	455	286	54	31	935	3,175	968
2005	5,095	54	211	600	659	629	794	1,042	273	457	286	59	32	929	3,191	975
2006	5,117	55	213	588	668	627	790	1,058	280	456	287	63	32	922	3,213	983
Males																
1981	2,495	35	128	400	445	364	298	424	118	194	77	8	3	610	1,603	282
1986	2,462	34	131	336	438	371	331	410	127	184	86	10	3	543	1,636	283
1991	2,445	34	132	324	377	394	345	415	124	192	91	13	3	522	1,623	299
1996	2,447	30	128	328	327	392	355	454	122	198	93	15	5	521	1,616	310
2000	2,432	28	118	326	315	347	377	474	125	199	100	17	6	505	1,606	322
2001	2,434	26	115	322	319	337	379	483	125	200	103	17	6	497	1,610	327
2002	2,432	26	111	319	324	325	382	490	125	202	106	17	7	489	1,612	331
2003	2,435	26	108	314	329	315	383	496	126	204	108	16	7	483	1,616	336
2004	2,446	28	107	312	332	310	384	503	129	207	111	16	7	479	1,627	341
2005	2,456	28	107	307	335	309	382	511	131	208	112	18	7	476	1,635	345
2006	2,469	28	109	301	340	310	380	517	135	208	113	20	8	472	1,649	349
Females																
1981	2,685	33	121	380	430	359	305	456	142	265	155	27	11	579	1,506	600
1986	2,649	32	126	320	424	368	334	439	146	250	166	32	12	518	1,525	606
1991	2,639	32	126	309	369	402	351	437	141	249	168	38	16	499	1,528	612
1996	2,645	28	123	315	324	406	367	470	137	250	164	42	20	498	1,535	612
2000	2,631	26	112	310	313	369	397	488	138	246	166	43	22	480	1,535	616
2001	2,630	26	109	307	314	359	403	496	137	246	169	43	23	473	1,540	617
2002	2,623	25	106	303	315	344	406	504	137	247	171	41	23	466	1,538	619
2003	2,623	25	104	300	318	332	410	512	139	248	173	39	24	460	1,540	622
2004	2,632	26	103	297	321	325	412	521	141	248	175	38	24	457	1,549	627
2005	2,639	26	103	293	324	320	411	531	142	249	174	41	25	453	1,556	630
2006	2,647	27	104	287	328	317	410	541	145	247	174	43	25	450	1,564	634
Northern Ireland																
Persons																
1981	1,543	27	106	282	271	200	175	227	68	116	57	..	..	444	874	224
1986	1,574	28	107	261	277	217	190	227	71	115	64	16	..	423	917	234
1991	1,607	26	106	260	256	240	200	241	70	121	69	14	6	417	945	246
1996	1,662	24	99	266	244	257	220	266	70	123	72	15	7	415	993	253
2000	1,683	22	95	259	237	247	243	284	73	123	75	16	7	403	1,020	259
2001	1,689	22	93	255	240	243	248	290	74	123	77	16	7	397	1,030	262
2002	1,697	22	91	253	243	238	251	296	75	125	79	16	7	393	1,037	266
2003	1,703	21	89	251	246	233	254	301	78	126	81	16	8	388	1,044	271
2004	1,710	22	87	248	250	229	256	305	81	127	82	16	8	383	1,052	275
2005	1,724	23	88	245	253	228	257	310	84	128	83	17	8	381	1,064	280
2006	1,742	23	89	242	258	229	259	316	87	130	83	18	8	380	1,077	284
Males																
1981	757	14	54	145	140	102	87	109	32	50	21	..	..	228	454	75
1986	768	14	55	134	142	109	95	110	33	50	23	4	..	217	474	77
1991	783	13	54	133	131	119	100	118	32	53	26	4	1	213	487	83
1996	810	12	51	136	124	128	109	131	33	54	27	4	1	212	511	87
2000	820	11	49	133	120	122	119	141	35	55	29	5	2	207	524	90
2001	824	11	48	131	122	120	122	144	35	56	30	5	2	204	529	92
2002	829	11	47	130	124	117	123	147	36	56	31	5	2	202	534	94
2003	833	11	46	129	126	115	124	149	38	57	31	5	2	199	538	95
2004	836	11	45	127	128	113	125	151	39	58	32	5	2	197	542	97
2005	844	12	45	126	130	113	126	153	41	59	32	5	2	196	550	99
2006	853	12	46	124	132	113	127	156	42	60	33	6	2	195	558	101
Females																
1981	786	13	52	137	130	98	88	118	37	66	37	..	..	216	420	150
1986	805	13	52	127	135	107	96	118	38	65	41	12	..	206	442	157
1991	824	13	52	127	125	121	100	123	38	67	44	10	4	203	458	163
1996	851	11	49	130	120	129	110	135	37	69	45	11	6	203	482	167
2000	862	11	46	126	118	125	124	143	38	68	46	11	6	196	497	169
2001	865	10	45	124	119	123	126	146	38	68	47	11	6	193	501	170
2002	868	11	44	123	119	120	128	149	39	68	48	11	6	191	504	173
2003	870	10	43	122	120	118	129	152	40	68	49	11	6	189	506	175
2004	874	11	42	121	122	116	130	154	42	69	50	11	6	187	509	178
2005	880	11	43	119	123	115	131	157	43	69	50	11	6	186	514	181
2006	888	11	43	118	126	115	132	160	45	69	51	12	6	185	520	183

See notes on first page of table.

Table 1.5 Population: age, sex and legal marital status

England and Wales

Numbers (thousands)

Mid-year	Total population	Males					Females				
		Single	Married	Divorced	Widowed	Total	Single	Married	Divorced	Widowed	Total
Aged											
16 and over											
1971	36,818	4,173	12,522	187	682	17,563	3,583	12,566	296	2,810	19,255
1976	37,486	4,369	12,511	376	686	17,941	3,597	12,538	533	2,877	19,545
1981	38,724	5,013	12,238	611	698	18,559	4,114	12,284	828	2,939	20,165
1986	39,837	5,625	11,867	917	695	19,103	4,617	12,000	1,165	2,953	20,734
1991	40,501	5,891	11,636	1,187	727	19,441	4,817	11,833	1,459	2,951	21,060
1996	40,827	6,225	11,310	1,346	733	19,614	5,168	11,433	1,730	2,881	21,212
1999	41,325	6,582	11,143	1,433	732	19,890	5,526	11,235	1,875	2,800	21,435
2000	41,569	6,721	11,113	1,456	731	20,022	5,650	11,199	1,927	2,772	21,547
2001	41,865	6,894	11,090	1,482	733	20,198	5,798	11,150	1,975	2,745	21,667
2002[1]	42,135	7,086	11,008	1,534	730	20,358	5,957	11,075	2,036	2,710	21,777
2003[1]	42,409	7,272	10,929	1,589	727	20,517	6,126	11,000	2,096	2,669	21,892
2004[1]	42,731	7,483	10,851	1,642	724	20,700	6,311	10,935	2,156	2,629	22,031
2005[1]	43,141	7,708	10,801	1,696	722	20,927	6,529	10,882	2,215	2,589	22,214
2006	43,494	7,944	10,723	1,739	720	21,126	6,740	10,812	2,266	2,549	22,367
16–19											
1971	2,666	1,327	34	0	0	1,362	1,163	142	0	0	1,305
1976	2,901	1,454	28	0	0	1,482	1,289	129	0	0	1,419
1981	3,310	1,675	20	0	0	1,694	1,523	93	0	0	1,616
1986	3,131	1,587	10	0	0	1,596	1,484	49	1	0	1,535
1991	2,665	1,358	8	0	0	1,366	1,267	32	0	0	1,300
1996	2,402	1,209	6	0	0	1,216	1,164	21	0	0	1,186
1999	2,543	1,280	6	1	1	1,288	1,234	20	1	1	1,255
2000	2,523	1,276	6	1	1	1,283	1,221	18	1	1	1,240
2001	2,567	1,304	5	1	1	1,312	1,237	16	1	1	1,255
2002[1]	2,630	1,352	4	1	1	1,357	1,259	13	1	1	1,273
2003[1]	2,703	1,392	4	1	1	1,397	1,293	12	0	1	1,306
2004[1]	2,771	1,424	3	0	0	1,428	1,332	11	0	0	1,343
2005[1]	2,801	1,434	2	0	0	1,436	1,355	9	0	0	1,365
2006	2,829	1,457	2	0	0	1,459	1,364	7	0	0	1,370
20–24											
1971	3,773	1,211	689	3	0	1,904	745	1,113	9	2	1,869
1976	3,395	1,167	557	4	0	1,728	725	925	16	2	1,667
1981	3,744	1,420	466	10	1	1,896	1,007	811	27	2	1,847
1986	4,171	1,768	317	14	0	2,099	1,383	657	32	1	2,072
1991	3,911	1,717	242	12	0	1,971	1,421	490	29	1	1,941
1996	3,291	1,538	117	3	0	1,658	1,361	260	11	1	1,633
1999	3,047	1,449	78	2	0	1,530	1,320	188	8	1	1,517
2000	3,088	1,470	74	3	0	1,548	1,352	180	8	1	1,540
2001	3,157	1,501	74	3	1	1,579	1,390	178	8	1	1,578
2002[1]	3,212	1,533	69	3	1	1,606	1,430	167	8	1	1,606
2003[1]	3,281	1,573	68	3	1	1,645	1,465	161	8	1	1,636
2004[1]	3,376	1,639	69	3	1	1,712	1,497	157	8	2	1,664
2005[1]	3,477	1,700	66	3	1	1,771	1,547	150	8	2	1,706
2006	3,558	1,749	59	3	1	1,812	1,599	138	7	1	1,746
25–29											
1971	3,267	431	1,206	16	1	1,654	215	1,367	29	4	1,614
1976	3,758	533	1,326	39	2	1,900	267	1,522	65	5	1,859
1981	3,372	588	1,057	54	1	1,700	331	1,247	89	4	1,671
1986	3,713	835	949	79	1	1,863	527	1,207	113	4	1,850
1991	4,154	1,132	856	82	1	2,071	800	1,158	123	2	2,083
1996	3,950	1,273	650	46	1	1,970	977	906	93	3	1,980
1999	3,687	1,304	497	34	1	1,836	1,051	725	72	3	1,851
2000	3,605	1,305	459	31	1	1,796	1,065	677	65	3	1,810
2001	3,487	1,293	420	28	1	1,742	1,059	625	58	3	1,745
2002[1]	3,365	1,286	375	26	1	1,688	1,054	568	52	3	1,676
2003[1]	3,284	1,281	340	25	1	1,647	1,060	527	49	2	1,638
2004[1]	3,280	1,297	319	24	1	1,641	1,089	501	47	2	1,639
2005[1]	3,354	1,344	307	23	1	1,675	1,143	488	46	2	1,679
2006	3,434	1,400	295	23	1	1,718	1,198	471	46	2	1,716

1 2002 to 2005 mid-year population estimates for England and Wales have been updated to include the latest revised estimates that take into account improved estimates of international migration.

Table 1.5 continued **Population: age, sex and legal marital status**

England and Wales

Numbers (thousands)

Mid-year	Total population	Males					Females				
		Single	Married	Divorced	Widowed	Total	Single	Married	Divorced	Widowed	Total
30–34											
1971	2,897	206	1,244	23	3	1,475	111	1,269	34	8	1,422
1976	3,220	236	1,338	55	3	1,632	118	1,388	75	8	1,588
1981	3,715	318	1,451	97	3	1,869	165	1,544	129	9	1,846
1986	3,338	355	1,197	124	2	1,679	206	1,293	154	6	1,660
1991	3,708	520	1,172	155	2	1,849	335	1,330	189	5	1,859
1996	4,126	776	1,135	138	2	2,050	551	1,316	201	7	2,076
1999	4,113	877	1,043	121	3	2,044	651	1,223	188	7	2,069
2000	4,076	904	1,007	114	2	2,027	679	1,182	181	7	2,049
2001	4,050	934	971	108	2	2,016	711	1,142	174	7	2,033
2002[1]	3,992	959	918	105	2	1,984	742	1,093	167	6	2,009
2003[1]	3,919	979	864	102	2	1,947	766	1,041	159	6	1,972
2004[1]	3,810	988	810	97	2	1,897	777	982	149	5	1,913
2005[1]	3,724	1,002	761	92	2	1,856	791	933	139	5	1,868
2006	3,606	1,010	703	84	2	1,799	800	876	127	5	1,808
35–44											
1971	5,736	317	2,513	48	13	2,891	201	2,529	66	48	2,845
1976	5,608	286	2,442	104	12	2,843	167	2,427	129	42	2,765
1981	5,996	316	2,519	178	12	3,024	170	2,540	222	41	2,972
1986	6,856	396	2,738	293	12	3,438	213	2,815	350	39	3,418
1991	7,022	477	2,632	384	11	3,504	280	2,760	444	34	3,517
1996	7,017	653	2,426	398	12	3,489	427	2,568	497	36	3,528
1999	7,475	832	2,459	408	13	3,711	577	2,617	533	37	3,763
2000	7,661	899	2,481	410	12	3,802	635	2,640	547	37	3,859
2001	7,816	963	2,494	411	12	3,881	692	2,649	558	36	3,935
2002[1]	7,964	1,031	2,490	424	12	3,957	751	2,650	572	35	4,007
2003[1]	8,058	1,089	2,471	435	12	4,007	804	2,631	583	34	4,051
2004[1]	8,133	1,141	2,441	443	11	4,036	858	2,613	593	32	4,097
2005[1]	8,194	1,195	2,417	450	11	4,073	910	2,583	597	31	4,121
2006	8,213	1,249	2,371	448	11	4,080	965	2,543	595	30	4,134
45–64											
1971	11,887	502	4,995	81	173	5,751	569	4,709	125	733	6,136
1976	11,484	496	4,787	141	160	5,583	462	4,568	188	683	5,901
1981	11,040	480	4,560	218	147	5,405	386	4,358	271	620	5,635
1986	10,860	461	4,422	331	141	5,355	327	4,220	388	570	5,505
1991	10,960	456	4,394	456	127	5,433	292	4,211	521	503	5,527
1996	11,820	528	4,587	628	121	5,864	318	4,466	732	440	5,956
1999	12,198	589	4,627	706	121	6,043	355	4,541	844	415	6,155
2000	12,328	615	4,638	727	121	6,101	372	4,564	881	410	6,227
2001	12,447	644	4,647	747	121	6,159	391	4,578	918	401	6,289
2002[1]	12,573	670	4,642	779	120	6,211	413	4,597	960	391	6,362
2003[1]	12,710	702	4,643	814	119	6,278	437	4,612	1,002	381	6,432
2004[1]	12,852	736	4,643	850	117	6,347	465	4,625	1,045	371	6,505
2005[1]	13,021	774	4,652	888	117	6,431	497	4,642	1,090	362	6,590
2006	13,243	818	4,676	926	117	6,537	535	4,677	1,138	356	6,706
65 and over											
1971	6,592	179	1,840	17	492	2,527	580	1,437	32	2,016	4,065
1976	7,119	197	2,033	33	510	2,773	569	1,579	60	2,138	4,347
1981	7,548	216	2,167	54	534	2,971	533	1,692	90	2,263	4,578
1986	7,768	223	2,234	76	539	3,072	477	1,759	127	2,333	4,696
1991	8,080	231	2,332	99	586	3,248	422	1,853	152	2,405	4,832
1996	8,221	247	2,390	134	597	3,367	369	1,897	196	2,393	4,854
1999	8,262	251	2,431	161	594	3,437	338	1,922	230	2,336	4,825
2000	8,287	252	2,449	171	593	3,466	327	1,938	243	2,313	4,821
2001	8,342	254	2,478	183	595	3,510	318	1,960	259	2,295	4,832
2002[1]	8,398	255	2,508	196	594	3,554	309	1,987	276	2,272	4,844
2003[1]	8,454	257	2,538	210	593	3,597	301	2,017	295	2,245	4,857
2004[1]	8,510	258	2,566	224	592	3,640	293	2,046	314	2,216	4,870
2005[1]	8,571	260	2,596	239	590	3,685	286	2,077	335	2,187	4,885
2006	8,611	261	2,618	254	589	3,722	279	2,101	353	2,155	4,889

See notes on first page of table.

Table 2.1 Vital statistics summary

Constituent countries of the United Kingdom

Numbers (thousands) and rates

Year and quarter	All live births		Live births outside marriage		Marriages		Civil Partnerships		Divorces		Deaths		Infant mortality[6]		Neonatal mortality[7]		Perinatal mortality[8]	
	Number	Rate[1]	Number	Rate[2]	Number	Rate[3]	Number	Rate[4]	Number	Rate[5]	Number	Rate[1]	Number	Rate[2]	Number	Rate[2]	Number	Rate[3]
United Kingdom																		
1976	675.5	12.0	61.1	90	406.0	..	:	:	135.4	..	680.8	12.1	9.79	14.5	6.68	9.9	12.25	18.0
1981	730.7	13.0	91.3	125	397.8	49.4	:	:	156.4	11.3	658.0	11.7	8.16	11.2	4.93	6.7	8.79	12.0
1986	754.8	13.3	154.3	204	393.9	..	:	:	168.2	..	660.7	11.7	7.18	9.5	4.00	5.3	7.31	9.6
1991	792.3	13.8	236.1	298	349.7	..	:	:	173.5	..	646.2	11.2	5.82	7.4	3.46	4.4	6.45	8.1
1996	733.2	12.6	260.4	355	317.5	..	:	:	171.7	..	636.0	10.9	4.50	6.1	3.00	4.1	6.41	8.7
1999	700.0	11.9	271.6	388	301.1	..	:	:	158.7	..	632.1	10.8	4.05	5.8	2.73	3.9	5.79	8.2
2000	679.0	11.5	268.1	395	305.9	..	:	:	154.6	..	608.4	10.3	3.79	5.6	2.63	3.9	5.56	8.1
2001	669.1	11.3	268.0	401	286.1	..	:	:	156.8	..	602.3	10.2	3.66	5.5	2.43	3.6	5.39	8.0
2002	668.8	11.3	271.7	406	293.0	..	:	:	160.5	..	606.2	10.2	3.50	5.2	2.36	3.5	5.57	8.3
2003	695.6	11.7	288.5	415	308.6	..	:	:	166.7	..	612.0	10.3	3.69	5.3	2.53	3.6	5.96	8.5
2004	716.0	12.0	302.6	423	313.6	..	:	:	167.1	..	583.1	9.7	3.61	5.0	2.46	3.4	6.00	8.3
2005	722.5	12.0	310.2	429	285.0[p]	..	1.95[10]	..	155.1	..	582.7	9.7	3.68	5.1	2.53	3.5	5.82	8.0
2006	748.6	12.4	326.8	437	..	..	16.11	..	148.1	..	572.2	9.4	3.74	5.0	2.61	3.5	5.94	7.9
2005 March	173.2	11.7	74.5	430	35.0[p]	..	:	:	39.4	..	165.1	11.1	0.95	5.5	0.64	3.7	1.39	8.0
June	179.0	11.9	75.0	419	78.9[p]	..	:	:	40.0	..	141.1	9.5	0.93	5.2	0.64	3.6	1.53	8.5
Sept	190.3	12.5	82.5	434	120.7[p]	..	:	:	38.9	..	130.9	8.7	0.91	4.8	0.66	3.5	1.49	7.8
Dec	180.1	11.9	78.2	434	50.5[p]	..	1.95[10]	..	36.7	..	145.5	9.7	0.90	5.0	0.59	3.3	1.42	7.8
2006 March	178.9	12.0	77.5	433	..	..	4.87	..	37.7	..	159.9	10.7	0.90	5.1	0.61	3.4	1.45	8.1
June	186.0	12.3	80.2	431	..	..	4.36	..	36.7	..	141.4	9.4	0.94	5.0	0.65	3.5	1.50	8.0
Sept	195.2	12.8	85.8	439	..	..	4.49	..	37.0	..	130.7	8.6	0.93	4.8	0.67	3.4	1.54	7.8
Dec	188.5	12.3	83.3	442	..	..	2.38	..	36.7	..	140.2	9.2	0.97	5.2	0.68	3.6	1.45	7.7
2007 March	183.6[p]	12.2[p]	81.6[p]	444[p]	..	..	1.69[p]	..	..	..	159.2[p]	10.6[p]	0.91[p]	4.9[p]	0.63[p]	3.4[p]	1.39[p]	7.5[p]
June	189.5[p]	12.5[p]	82.5[p]	435[p]	..	..	2.37[p]	..	..	..	138.0[p]	9.1[p]	0.99[p]	5.2[p]	0.66[p]	3.5[p]	1.52[p]	8.0[p]
England and Wales																		
1976	584.3	11.8	53.8	92	358.6	57.7	:	:	126.7	10.1	598.5	12.1	8.34	14.3	5.66	9.7	10.45	17.7
1981	634.5	12.8	81.0	128	352.0	49.6	:	:	145.7	11.9	577.9	11.6	7.02	11.1	4.23	6.7	7.56	11.8
1986	661.0	13.2	141.3	214	347.9	43.6	:	:	153.9	12.9	581.2	11.6	6.31	9.6	3.49	5.3	6.37	9.6
1991	699.2	13.8	211.3	302	306.8	36.0	:	:	158.7	13.5	570.0	11.2	5.16	7.4	3.05	4.4	5.65	8.0
1996	649.5	12.6	232.7	358	279.0	30.9	:	:	157.1	13.8	560.1	10.9	3.99	6.1	2.68	4.1	5.62	8.6
1999	621.9	12.0	241.9	389	263.5	27.8	:	:	144.6	12.9	556.1	10.7	3.62	5.8	2.44	3.9	5.14	8.2
2000	604.4	11.6	238.6	395	268.0	27.8	:	:	141.1	12.7	535.7	10.3	3.38	5.6	2.34	3.9	4.96	8.2
2001	594.6	11.4	238.1	400	249.2	25.4	:	:	143.8	12.9	530.4	10.1	3.24	5.4	2.14	3.6	4.76	8.0
2002	596.1	11.3	242.0	406	255.6	25.6	:	:	147.7	13.4	533.5	10.1	3.13	5.2	2.13	3.6	4.99	8.3
2003	621.5	11.8	257.2	414	270.1	26.4	:	:	153.5	14.0	538.3	10.2	3.31	5.3	2.26	3.6	5.36	8.6
2004	639.7	12.1	269.7	422	273.1	26.1	:	:	153.4	14.1	512.5	9.7	3.22	5.0	2.21	3.5	5.39	8.4
2005	645.8	12.1	276.5	428	246.0[p]	22.8[p]	1.86[10]	5.7[10]	141.8	13.1	512.7	9.7	3.26	5.0	2.23	3.4	5.21	8.0
2006	669.6	12.5	291.4	435	..	..	14.94	1.4[p]	132.6	12.2	502.6	9.4	3.37	5.0	2.35	3.5	5.36	8.0
2005 March	154.3	11.7	66.3	430	30.2[p]	11.4[p]	:	:	36.2	13.6	145.7	11.0	0.85	5.5	0.57	3.7	1.25	8.0
June	159.8	12.0	66.6	417	68.1[p]	25.5[p]	:	:	36.5	13.5	123.8	9.4	0.82	5.2	0.56	3.5	1.35	8.4
Sept	170.2	12.6	73.7	433	104.8[p]	38.8[p]	:	:	35.6	13.0	114.7	8.6	0.79	4.6	0.57	3.4	1.34	7.8
Dec	161.7	12.0	69.9	433	42.9[p]	15.9[p]	1.86[10]	5.7[10]	33.4	12.2	128.5	9.6	0.80	4.9	0.52	3.2	1.28	7.9
2006 March	159.5	12.0	68.7	431	..	..	4.58	1.7	34.3	12.8	141.0	10.6	0.82	5.2	0.56	3.5	1.32	8.2
June	166.2	12.4	71.4	430	..	..	4.01	1.5	33.0	12.2	123.9	9.2	0.84	5.1	0.58	3.5	1.37	8.2
Sept	174.9	12.9	76.8	439	..	..	4.18	1.5	32.9	12.0	114.6	8.5	0.85	4.8	0.60	3.4	1.38	7.9
Dec	169.0	12.5	74.5	441	..	..	2.18	0.8	32.4	11.8	123.1	9.1	0.86	5.1	0.60	3.6	1.30	7.6
2007 March	163.3[p]	12.2[p]	72.1[p]	442[p]	..	..	1.56[p]	0.6[p]	34.7[p]	13.0[p]	139.2[p]	10.4[p]	0.80[p]	4.9[p]	0.55[p]	3.4[p]	1.23[p]	7.5[p]
June	169.2[p]	12.5[p]	73.4[p]	434[p]	..	..	2.16[p]	0.8[p]	33.1[p]	12.2[p]	121.0[p]	9.0[p]	0.88[p]	5.2[p]	0.60[p]	3.5[p]	1.36[p]	8.0[p]
England																		
1976	550.4	11.8	50.8	92	339.0	..	:	:	..	..	560.3	12.0	7.83	14.2	5.32	9.7	9.81	17.6
1981	598.2	12.8	76.9	129	332.2	..	:	:	..	..	541.0	11.6	6.50	10.9	3.93	6.6	7.04	11.7
1986	623.6	13.2	133.5	214	328.4	..	:	:	146.0	..	544.5	11.6	5.92	9.5	3.27	5.2	5.98	9.5
1991	660.8	13.8	198.9	301	290.1	..	:	:	150.1	..	534.0	11.2	4.86	7.3	2.87	4.3	5.33	8.0
1996	614.2	12.7	218.2	355	264.2	..	:	:	148.7	..	524.0	10.8	3.74	6.1	2.53	4.1	5.36	8.7
1999	589.5	12.0	226.7	385	249.5	..	:	:	137.0	..	519.6	10.8	3.38	5.7	2.29	3.9	4.86	8.2
2000	572.8	11.7	223.8	391	253.8	..	:	:	133.9	..	501.0	10.2	3.18	5.6	2.21	3.9	4.69	8.2
2001	563.7	11.4	223.3	396	236.2	..	:	:	136.4	..	496.1	10.0	3.04	5.4	2.02	3.6	4.51	8.0
2002	565.7	11.4	227.0	401	242.1	..	:	:	140.2	..	499.1	10.1	2.97	5.2	2.02	3.6	4.75	8.3
2003	589.9	11.8	241.4	409	255.6	..	:	:	145.8	..	503.4	10.1	3.14	5.3	2.15	3.7	5.09	8.6
2004	607.2	12.1	253.1	417	258.2	..	:	:	145.5	..	479.2	9.6	3.03	5.0	2.09	3.4	5.10	8.4
2005	613.0	12.1	259.4	423	231.1[p]	..	1.79[10]	..	134.6	..	479.4	9.6	3.10	5.0	2.12	3.5	4.92	8.0
2006	635.7	12.5	273.5	430	..	..	14.38	..	125.6	..	470.3	9.3	3.19	5.0	2.24	3.5	5.11	8.0
2005 March	146.4	11.8	62.1	424	28.6[p]	..	:	:	34.4	..	136.2	10.9	0.81	5.6	0.54	3.7	1.18	8.0
June	151.8	12.1	62.5	412	64.2[p]	..	:	:	34.7	..	115.7	9.3	0.78	5.1	0.53	3.5	1.28	8.4
Sept	161.4	12.7	69.1	428	98.9[p]	..	:	:	33.8	..	107.3	8.5	0.75	4.7	0.55	3.4	1.27	7.8
Dec	153.4	12.1	65.6	428	40.4[p]	..	1.79[10]	..	31.7	..	120.3	9.6	0.75	4.9	0.50	3.3	1.18	7.7
2006 March	151.4	12.1	64.5	426	..	..	4.42	..	32.5	..	132.0	10.5	0.79	5.2	0.54	3.6	1.26	8.3
June	157.8	12.5	67.0	425	..	..	3.86	..	31.2	..	115.9	9.2	0.80	5.1	0.56	3.5	1.31	8.2
Sept	166.0	13.0	72.0	434	..	..	4.02	..	31.2	..	107.1	8.4	0.80	4.8	0.57	3.4	1.31	7.8
Dec	160.5	12.5	70.0	436	..	..	2.09	..	30.7	..	115.3	9.0	0.81	5.0	0.57	3.6	1.24	7.7
2007 March	155.1[p]	12.3[p]	67.8[p]	437[p]	..	..	1.50[p]	..	32.8[p]	..	130.2[p]	10.3[p]	0.74[p]	4.8[p]	0.52[p]	3.3[p]	1.16[p]	7.4[p]
June	160.7[p]	12.6[p]	68.9[p]	429[p]	..	..	2.06[p]	..	31.3[p]	..	112.8[p]	8.9[p]	0.83[p]	5.2[p]	0.57[p]	3.5[p]	1.30[p]	8.0[p]

Note: Death figures for England and Wales represent the number of deaths registered in each year up to 1992, and the number of deaths occurring in each year from 1993 to 2005. Death figures for 2006 and provisional death figures for 2007 relate to registrations.
Birth and death figures for England and also for Wales each exclude events for persons usually resident outside England and Wales. These events are, however, included in the totals for England and Wales combined, and for the United Kingdom.

From 1981 births to non-resident mothers in Northern Ireland are excluded from the figures for Northern Ireland, and for the United Kingdom.
Birth and death rates for 2007 are based on the 2006-based population projections for 2007.
Marriage, civil partnership and divorce rates for 2007 are based on 2006 marital status estimates.

Table 2.1 continued **Vital statistics summary**

Constituent countries of the United Kingdom

Numbers (thousands) and rates

Year and quarter	All live births		Live births outside marriage		Marriages		Civil Partnerships		Divorces		Deaths		Infant mortality[6]		Neonatal mortality[7]		Perinatal mortality[8]	
	Number	Rate[1]	Number	Rate[2]	Number	Rate[3]	Number	Rate[4]	Number	Rate[5]	Number	Rate[1]	Number	Rate[2]	Number	Rate[2]	Number	Rate[9]
Wales																		
1976	33.4	11.9	2.9	86	19.5	..	:	:	..	..	36.3	13.0	0.46	13.7	0.32	9.6	0.64	19.0
1981	35.8	12.7	4.0	112	19.8	..	:	:	..	..	35.0	12.4	0.45	12.6	0.29	8.1	0.51	14.1
1986	37.0	13.2	7.8	211	19.5	..	:	:	7.8	..	34.7	12.3	0.35	9.5	0.21	5.6	0.38	10.3
1991	38.1	13.3	12.3	323	16.6	..	:	:	8.4	..	34.1	11.9	0.25	6.6	0.16	4.1	0.30	7.9
1996	34.9	12.1	14.4	412	14.8	..	:	:	8.4	..	34.6	12.0	0.20	5.6	0.13	3.6	0.26	7.5
1999	32.1	11.1	14.8	461	14.0	..	:	:	7.5	..	35.0	12.1	0.20	6.1	0.13	4.0	0.25	7.7
2000	31.3	10.8	14.8	472	14.1	..	:	:	7.2	..	33.3	11.5	0.17	5.3	0.11	3.5	0.23	7.2
2001	30.6	10.5	14.8	483	13.0	..	:	:	7.4	..	33.0	11.3	0.16	5.4	0.11	3.5	0.23	7.5
2002	30.2	10.3	15.0	497	13.5	..	:	:	7.6	..	33.2	11.4	0.14	4.5	0.10	3.2	0.24	7.7
2003	31.4	10.7	15.8	503	14.5	..	:	:	7.7	..	33.7	11.5	0.13	4.3	0.10	3.1	0.24	7.6
2004	32.3	11.0	16.6	513	14.9	..	:	:	7.9	..	32.1	10.9	0.16	4.9	0.10	3.1	0.26	8.0
2005	32.6	11.0	17.1	524	13.9[p]	..	0.07[10]	..	7.2	..	32.1	10.9	0.13	4.1	0.09	2.9	0.24	7.4
2006	33.6	11.3	17.8	530	..	..	0.56	..	6.9	..	31.1	10.5	0.14	4.1	0.09	2.8	0.23	6.9
2005 March	7.8	10.8	4.1	529	1.6[p]	..	:	:	1.8	..	9.3	12.6	0.03	4.2	0.02	3.1	0.06	7.7
June	7.9	10.7	4.0	510	3.9[p]	..	:	:	1.8	..	7.8	10.6	0.03	4.2	0.03	3.2	0.06	7.9
Sept	8.7	11.6	4.6	530	6.0[p]	..	:	:	1.8	..	7.1	9.6	0.03	3.3	0.02	2.8	0.06	7.0
Dec	8.2	11.0	4.3	527	2.5[p]	..	0.07[10]	..	1.8	..	7.9	10.7	0.04	4.6	0.02	2.6	0.06	6.8
2006 March	8.1	11.1	4.2	520	..	..	0.16	..	1.8	..	8.7	11.9	0.03	3.1	0.02	2.0	0.06	7.0
June	8.3	11.2	4.3	523	..	..	0.15	..	1.7	..	7.6	10.3	0.03	4.1	0.02	2.4	0.05	6.3
Sept	8.8	11.8	4.8	543	..	..	0.16	..	1.7	..	7.2	9.7	0.04	4.0	0.03	3.1	0.07	7.7
Dec	8.4	11.2	4.5	535	..	..	0.09	..	1.7	..	7.5	10.1	0.04	5.1	0.03	3.6	0.06	6.6
2007 March	8.1[p]	11.0[p]	4.3[p]	535[p]	..	..	0.06[p]	..	1.8[p]	..	8.8[p]	11.9[p]	0.05[p]	6.3[p]	0.03[p]	3.7[p]	0.07[p]	8.4[p]
June	8.5[p]	11.4[p]	4.5[p]	530[p]	..	..	0.10[p]	..	1.8[p]	..	7.9[p]	10.6[p]	0.04[p]	4.5[p]	0.02[p]	2.8[p]	0.06[p]	6.8[p]
Scotland																		
1976	64.9	12.5	6.0	93	37.5	53.8	:	:	8.1	6.5	65.3	12.5	0.96	14.8	0.67	10.3	1.20	18.3
1981	69.1	13.4	8.5	122	36.2	47.5	:	:	9.9	8.0	63.8	12.3	0.78	11.3	0.47	6.9	0.81	11.6
1986	65.8	12.9	13.6	206	35.8	42.9	:	:	12.8	10.7	63.5	12.4	0.58	8.8	0.34	5.2	0.67	10.2
1991	67.0	13.2	19.5	291	33.8	39.0	:	:	12.4	10.6	61.0	12.0	0.47	7.1	0.29	4.6	0.58	8.6
1996	59.3	11.6	21.4	360	30.2	33.2	:	:	12.3	10.9	60.7	11.9	0.37	6.2	0.23	3.9	0.55	9.2
1999	55.1	10.9	22.7	412	29.9	31.5	:	:	11.9	10.9	60.3	11.9	0.28	5.0	0.18	3.3	0.42	7.6
2000	53.1	10.5	22.6	426	30.4	31.6	:	:	11.1	10.3	57.8	11.4	0.31	5.7	0.21	4.0	0.45	8.4
2001	52.5	10.4	22.8	433	29.6	31.0	:	:	10.6	9.7	57.4	11.3	0.29	5.5	0.20	3.8	0.45	8.5
2002	51.3	10.1	22.5	440	29.8	30.8	:	:	10.8	10.0	58.1	11.5	0.27	5.3	0.16	3.2	0.39	7.6
2003	52.4	10.4	23.9	455	30.8	31.3	:	:	10.1	10.2	58.5	11.6	0.27	5.1	0.18	3.4	0.42	8.0
2004	54.0	10.6	25.2	467	32.2	32.2	:	:	11.2	10.5	56.2	11.1	0.27	4.9	0.17	3.1	0.44	8.1
2005	54.4	10.7	25.6	471	30.9	30.3	0.08[10]	2.5[10]	10.9	10.3	55.7	11.0	0.28	5.2	0.19	3.5	0.42	7.7
2006	55.7	10.9	26.6	477	29.9	28.7	1.05	1.0	13.0	12.3	55.1	10.8	0.25	4.5	0.17	3.1	0.42	7.4
2005 March	13.4	10.6	6.2	464	3.8	15.3	:	:	2.6	10.0	15.6	12.4	0.07	5.0	0.04	3.3	0.09	7.0
June	13.6	10.7	6.4	472	8.6	34.0	:	:	2.8	10.7	13.7	10.8	0.07	5.1	0.05	3.4	0.13	9.2
Sept	14.2	11.1	6.7	471	12.3	48.0	:	:	2.7	10.1	12.8	10.0	0.08	5.6	0.06	3.9	0.11	7.6
Dec	13.2	10.3	6.3	477	6.1	23.7	0.08[10]	2.5[10]	2.8	10.3	13.6	10.7	0.07	5.2	0.05	3.4	0.10	7.1
2006 March	13.6	10.8	6.6	487	3.5	13.6	0.26	1.0	2.6	10.1	14.9[p]	11.8	0.05	3.7	0.03	2.4	0.09	6.7
June	14.0	11.0	6.7	475	8.3	32.1	0.32	1.2	3.1	11.7	13.9[p]	10.9	0.07	5.0	0.05	3.3	0.09	6.4
Sept	14.2	11.0	6.7	471	12.2	46.4	0.28	1.1	3.6	13.4	12.7[p]	9.8	0.05	3.8	0.04	2.9	0.11	7.8
Dec	13.9	10.8	6.6	477	5.9	22.4	0.19	0.7	3.7	14.1	13.6[p]	10.6	0.07	5.3	0.04	3.7	0.12	8.7
2007 March	14.2[p]	11.3[p]	7.1[p]	501[p]	3.3[p]	13.0[p]	0.11[p]	0.4[p]	33.1[p]	12.7[p]	15.8[p]	12.5[p]	0.07[p]	4.9[p]	0.05[p]	3.6[p]	0.12[p]	8.1[p]
June	14.3[p]	11.3[p]	6.9[p]	482[p]	8.1[p]	31.4[p]	0.18[p]	0.7[p]	33.3[p]	12.6[p]	13.4[p]	10.5[p]	0.08[p]	5.3[p]	0.05[p]	3.4[p]	0.12[p]	8.6[p]
Sept	14.9[p]	11.7[p]	7.2[p]	470[p]	12.6[p]	48.1[p]	0.25[p]	0.9[p]	29.7[p]	11.2[p]	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Northern Ireland																		
1976	26.4	17.3	1.3	50	9.9	..	:	:	0.6	..	17.0	11.2	0.48	18.3	0.35	13.3	0.59	22.3
1981	27.2	17.6	1.9	70	9.6	45.4	:	:	1.4	4.2	16.3	10.6	0.36	13.2	0.23	8.3	0.42	15.3
1986	28.0	17.8	3.6	128	10.2	..	:	:	1.5	..	16.1	10.3	0.36	13.2	0.23	8.3	0.42	15.3
1991	26.0	16.2	5.3	203	9.2	..	:	:	2.3	..	15.1	9.4	0.19	7.4	0.12	4.6	0.22	8.4
1996	24.4	14.7	6.3	260	8.3	..	:	:	2.3	..	15.2	9.2	0.14	5.8	0.09	3.7	0.23	9.4
1999	23.0	13.7	7.0	303	7.6	..	:	:	2.3	..	15.7	9.3	0.15	6.4	0.11	4.8	0.23	10.0
2000	21.5	12.8	6.8	318	7.6	..	:	:	2.4	..	14.9	8.9	0.11	5.1	0.08	3.8	0.15	7.3
2001	22.0	13.0	7.1	325	7.3	..	:	:	2.4	..	14.5	8.6	0.13	6.1	0.10	4.5	0.19	8.5
2002	21.4	12.6	7.2	335	7.6	..	:	:	2.2	..	14.6	8.6	0.10	4.7	0.07	3.5	0.19	8.9
2003	21.6	12.7	7.4	344	7.8	..	:	:	2.3	..	14.5	8.5	0.11	5.3	0.09	4.0	0.18	8.1
2004	22.3	13.0	7.7	345	8.3	..	:	:	2.5	..	14.4	8.4	0.12	5.5	0.08	3.7	0.18	8.2
2005	22.3	12.9	8.1	363	8.1	..	0.01[10]	..	2.4	..	14.2	8.3	0.14	6.3	0.11	5.1	0.18	8.1
2006	23.3	13.4	8.8	380	8.3	..	0.12	..	2.6	..	14.5	8.4	0.12	5.2	0.09	3.9	0.17	7.1
2005 March	5.5	13.0	2.0	363	0.9	..	:	:	0.6	..	3.8	8.9	0.03	5.2	0.02	4.3	0.05	8.8
June	5.7	13.3	2.0	359	2.2	..	:	:	0.7	..	3.7	8.6	0.04	7.2	0.03	5.6	0.04	8.4
Sept	5.9	13.7	2.0	358	3.5	..	:	:	0.5	..	3.4	7.8	0.04	6.6	0.03	5.6	0.04	7.2
Dec	5.2	11.9	1.9	373	1.4	..	0.01[10]	.	0.5	..	3.4	7.9	0.03	6.0	0.02	4.6	0.04	7.9
2006 March	5.8	13.6	2.2	370	0.9	..	0.03	..	0.7	..	4.0	9.4	0.03	5.3	0.02	3.3	0.04	6.8
June	5.8	13.3	2.2	381	2.3	..	0.04	..	0.7	..	3.6	8.4	0.03	4.7	0.02	3.6	0.04	7.4
Sept	6.1	13.9	2.3	358	3.5	..	0.03	..	0.5	..	3.4	7.8	0.03	4.9	0.02	3.6	0.05	7.5
Dec	5.6	12.8	2.2	393	1.5	..	0.02	..	0.6	..	3.5	7.9	0.03	5.9	0.03	5.0	0.04	6.4
2007 March	6.1[p]	14.2[p]	2.4[p]	383[p]	1.0[p]	..	0.02[p]	..	..	..	4.2[p]	9.6[p]	0.04[p]	6.8[p]	0.03[p]	4.7[p]	0.05[p]	7.8[p]
June	6.9[p]	13.3[p]	2.2[p]	317[p]	2.4[p]	..	0.03[p]	..	..	..	3.6[p]	8.2[p]	0.03[p]	5.2[p]	0.02[p]	3.0[p]	0.04[p]	6.8[p]
Sept	6.5[p]	13.9[p]	2.5[p]	387[p]	3.8[p]	..	0.04[p]	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

1 Per 1,000 population of all ages.
2 Per 1,000 live births.
3 Persons marrying per 1,000 unmarried population aged 16 and over.
4 Persons forming a civil partnership per 1,000 unmarried population aged 16 and over.
5 Persons divorcing per 1,000 married population.
6 Deaths under 1 year.
7 Deaths under 4 weeks.
8 Stillbirths and deaths under 1 week.
9 Per 1,000 live births and stillbirths.
10 The Civil Partnership Act 2004 came into force on 5 December 2005 in the UK - see Notes to tables.
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Table 2.2 Key demographic and health indicators

Constituent countries of the United Kingdom

Numbers (thousands), rates, percentages, mean age

				Dependency ratio		Live births					Period expectation of life (in years) at birth[7]		
	Population	Live births	Deaths	Children[1]	Elderly[2]	TFR[3]	Standardised mean age of mother at birth (years)[4]	Unstandardised mean age of mother at birth (years)[5]	Outside marriage as percentage of total live births	Age-standardised mortality rate[6]	Males	Females	Infant mortality rate[8]
United Kingdom													
1976	56,216.1	675.5	680.8	42.1	29.5	1.74	26.7	26.4	*9.0*	10,486	..	..	14.5
1981	56,357.5	730.7	658.0	37.1	29.7	1.82	27.0	26.8	*12.5*	9,506	70.8	76.8	11.2
1986	56,683.8	754.8	660.7	33.5	29.7	1.78	27.4	27.0	*20.4*	8,914	71.9	77.7	9.5
1991	57,438.7	792.3	646.2	33.2	30.0	1.82	27.7	27.7	*29.8*	8,168	73.2	78.7	7.4
1996	58,164.4	733.2	636.0	33.9	30.0	1.73	28.2	28.6	*35.5*	7,584	74.3	79.4	6.1
2001	59,113.5	669.1	602.3	32.6	29.8	1.63	28.6	29.2	*40.1*	6,807	75.6	80.4	5.5
2002	59,323.5	668.8	606.2	32.2	29.8	1.64	28.7	29.3	*40.6*	6,765	75.9	80.5	5.2
2003	59,557.3	695.6	612.0	31.8	29.9	1.71	28.8	29.4	*41.5*	6,758	76.2	80.7	5.3
2004	59,845.8	716.0	583.1	31.4	30.0	1.77	28.9	29.4	*42.3*	6,394	76.5	80.9	5.0
2005	60,238.4	722.5	582.7	31.0	30.0	1.78	29.1	29.5	*42.9*	6,268	76.9	81.3	5.1
2006	60,587.3	748.6	572.2	30.6	30.1	1.84	29.1	29.5	*43.7*	6,067[p]	..	..	5.0
England													
1976	46,659.9	550.4	560.3	41.4	29.7	1.70	26.5	26.4	*9.2*	10,271	..	..	14.2
1981	46,820.8	598.2	541.0	36.4	29.9	1.79	27.0	26.8	*12.9*	9,298	71.1	77.0	10.9
1986	47,187.6	623.6	544.5	33.1	29.8	1.76	27.4	27.0	*21.4*	8,725	72.2	77.9	9.5
1991	47,875.0	660.8	534.0	32.9	30.0	1.81	27.7	27.7	*30.1*	8,017	73.4	78.9	7.3
1996	48,519.1	614.2	524.0	33.7	30.0	1.73	28.2	28.7	*35.5*	7,414	74.5	79.6	6.1
2001	49,449.7	563.7	496.1	32.5	29.7	1.63	28.6	29.3	*39.6*	6,650	75.9	80.6	5.4
2002	49,652.3	565.7	499.1	32.1	29.7	1.65	28.7	29.4	*40.1*	6,603	76.1	80.7	5.2
2003	49,866.2	589.9	503.4	31.8	29.8	1.73	28.9	29.4	*40.9*	6,602	76.5	80.9	5.3
2004	50,110.7	607.2	479.2	31.4	29.8	1.78	29.0	29.5	*41.7*	6,232	76.8	81.1	5.0
2005	50,465.6	613.0	479.4	30.9	29.9	1.79	29.1	29.5	*42.3*	6,110	77.2	81.5	5.0
2006	50,762.9	635.7	470.3	30.6	29.9	1.86	29.2	29.5	*43.0*	5,916[p]	..	..	5.0
Wales													
1976	2,799.3	33.4	36.3	42.0	30.9	1.78	26.2	26.0	*8.6*	10,858	..	..	13.7
1981	2,813.5	35.8	35.0	37.6	31.6	1.87	26.7	26.6	*11.2*	9,846	70.4	76.4	12.6
1986	2,810.9	37.0	34.7	34.3	32.5	1.86	26.9	26.5	*21.1*	9,043	71.6	77.5	9.5
1991	2,873.0	38.1	34.1	34.4	33.5	1.88	27.1	27.0	*32.3*	8,149	73.1	78.8	6.6
1996	2,891.3	34.9	34.6	34.9	33.7	1.81	27.5	27.8	*41.2*	7,758	73.9	79.1	5.6
2001	2,910.2	30.6	33.0	33.7	33.6	1.66	27.8	28.3	*48.3*	7,017	75.3	80.0	5.4
2002	2,919.8	30.2	33.2	33.3	33.7	1.64	28.0	28.4	*49.7*	6,953	75.5	80.1	4.5
2003	2,931.1	31.4	33.7	32.8	33.8	1.73	28.1	28.5	*50.3*	6,984	75.8	80.3	4.3
2004	2,946.4	32.3	32.1	32.3	33.9	1.78	28.2	28.5	*51.3*	6,588	76.1	80.6	4.9
2005	2,953.6	32.6	32.1	31.8	34.1	1.81	28.4	28.5	*52.4*	6,442	76.6	80.9	4.1
2006	2,965.9	33.6	31.1	31.4	34.3	1.86	28.5	28.6	*53.0*	6,190[p]	..	..	4.1
Scotland													
1976	5,233.4	64.9	65.3	44.7	28.4	1.79	26.4	26.0	*9.3*	11,675	..	..	14.8
1981	5,180.2	69.1	63.8	38.2	28.4	1.84	26.8	26.3	*12.2*	10,849	69.1	75.3	11.3
1986	5,111.8	65.8	63.5	33.6	28.1	1.67	27.1	26.6	*20.6*	10,120	70.2	76.2	8.8
1991	5,083.3	67.0	61.0	32.4	28.9	1.69	27.5	27.4	*29.1*	9,216	71.4	77.1	7.1
1996	5,092.2	59.3	60.7	32.3	29.2	1.56	28.0	28.5	*36.0*	8,791	72.2	77.9	6.2
2001	5,064.2	52.5	57.4	30.8	30.0	1.49	28.5	29.2	*43.3*	7,930	73.3	78.8	5.5
2002	5,054.8	51.3	58.1	30.3	30.2	1.48	28.6	29.2	*44.0*	7,955	73.5	78.9	5.3
2003	5,057.4	52.4	58.5	29.9	30.3	1.54	28.7	29.3	*45.5*	7,921	73.8	79.1	5.1
2004	5,078.4	54.0	56.2	29.5	30.5	1.60	28.9	29.4	*46.7*	7,536	74.2	79.3	4.9
2005	5,094.8	54.4	55.7	29.1	30.6	1.62	29.0	29.5	*47.1*	7,349	74.6[p]	79.6[p]	5.2
2006	5,116.9	55.7	55.1	28.7	30.6	1.67	29.1	29.5	*47.7*	7,161[p]	..	..	4.5
Northern Ireland													
1976	1,523.5	26.4	17.0	56.1	25.3	2.68	27.8	27.4	*5.0*	11,746	..	..	18.3
1981	1,543.0	27.2	16.3	50.6	25.3	2.59	28.1	27.5	*7.0*	10,567	69.2	75.5	13.2
1986	1,573.5	28.0	16.1	46.1	25.5	2.45	28.1	27.5	*12.8*	10,071	70.9	77.1	13.2
1991	1,607.3	26.0	15.1	44.1	26.1	2.16	28.3	28.0	*20.3*	8,303	72.6	78.4	7.4
1996	1,661.8	24.4	15.2	41.8	25.5	1.95	28.7	28.8	*26.0*	7,742	73.8	79.2	5.8
2001	1,689.3	22.0	14.5	38.6	25.5	1.80	29.1	29.4	*32.5*	6,976	75.2	80.1	6.1
2002	1,696.6	21.4	14.6	37.9	25.7	1.77	29.2	29.5	*33.5*	6,930	75.6	80.4	4.7
2003	1,702.6	21.6	14.5	37.2	25.9	1.81	29.2	29.5	*34.4*	6,743	75.8	80.6	5.3
2004	1,710.3	22.3	14.4	36.4	26.2	1.87	29.4	29.7	*34.5*	6,609	76.0	80.8	5.5
2005	1,724.4	22.3	14.2	35.8	26.3	1.87	29.5	29.7	*36.3*	6,418	76.1	81.0	6.3
2006	1,741.6	23.3	14.5	35.3	26.4	1.94	29.6	29.7	*38.0*	6,397	..	..	5.2

Note: Death figures for England and Wales represent the number of deaths registered in each year up to 1992, and the number of deaths occurring in each year from 1993 to 2005. Death figures for 2006 relate to registrations.
Birth and death figures for England and also for Wales each exclude events for persons usually resident outside England and Wales. These events are, however, included in the total for the United Kingdom. From 1981 births to non-resident mothers in Northern Ireland are excluded from the figures for Northern Ireland, and for the United Kingdom.
Period expectation of life data for the United Kingdom, England and for Wales for 2001 to 2005 is based on death registrations and revised population estimates for 2002 to 2005.

1 Percentage of children under 16 to working-age population (males 16–64 and females 16–59).
2 Percentage of males 65 and over and females 60 and over to working-age population (males 16–64 and females 16–59).
3 TFR (total fertility rate) is the number of children that would be born to a woman if current patterns of fertility persisted throughout her childbearing life. It is sometimes called the TPFR (total period fertility rate).
4 Standardised to take account of the age structure of the population.
5 Unstandardised and therefore takes no account of the age structure of the population.
6 Per million population. The age-standardised mortality rate makes allowances for changes in the age structure of the population. See Notes to tables.
7 All countries: figures for all years based on registered deaths.
8 Deaths at age under one year per 1,000 live births.
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Table 3.1 Live births: age of mother

England and Wales

Numbers (thousands), rates, mean age and TFRs

Year and quarter	Age of mother at birth							Mean age[1] (years)	Age of mother at birth							Mean age[2] (years)	TFR[3]
	All ages	Under 20	20–24	25–29	30–34	35–39	40 and over		All ages	Under 20	20–24	25–29	30–34	35–39	40 and over		
	Total live births (numbers)								Age-specific fertility rates[4]								
1961	811.3	59.8	249.8	248.5	152.3	77.5	23.3	27.6	89.2	37.3	172.6	176.9	103.1	48.1	15.0	27.4	2.77
1964(max)	876.0	76.7	276.1	270.7	153.5	75.4	23.6	27.2	92.9	42.5	181.6	187.3	107.7	49.8	13.7	27.3	2.93
1966	849.8	86.7	285.8	253.7	136.4	67.0	20.1	26.8	90.5	47.7	176.0	174.0	97.3	45.3	12.5	27.1	2.75
1971	783.2	82.6	285.7	247.2	109.6	45.2	12.7	26.2	83.5	50.6	152.9	153.2	77.1	32.8	8.7	26.6	2.37
1976	584.3	57.9	182.2	220.7	90.8	26.1	6.5	26.4	60.4	32.2	109.3	118.7	57.2	18.6	4.8	26.5	1.71
1977(min)	569.3	54.5	174.5	207.9	100.8	25.5	6.0	26.5	58.1	29.4	103.7	117.5	58.6	18.2	4.4	26.6	1.66
1981	634.5	56.6	194.5	215.8	126.6	34.2	6.9	26.8	61.3	28.1	105.3	129.1	68.6	21.7	4.9	27.0	1.79
1986	661.0	57.4	192.1	229.0	129.5	45.5	7.6	27.0	60.6	30.1	92.7	123.8	78.0	24.6	4.8	27.4	1.77
1991	699.2	52.4	173.4	248.7	161.3	53.6	9.8	27.7	63.6	33.0	89.3	119.4	86.7	32.1	5.3	27.7	1.82
1992	689.7	47.9	163.3	244.8	166.8	56.7	10.2	27.9	63.6	31.7	86.1	117.6	87.4	33.4	5.8	27.8	1.80
1993	673.5	45.1	152.0	236.0	171.1	58.8	10.5	28.1	62.7	30.9	82.5	114.4	87.4	34.1	6.2	27.9	1.76
1994	664.7	42.0	140.2	229.1	179.6	63.1	10.7	28.4	62.0	28.9	79.0	112.2	89.4	35.8	6.4	28.1	1.75
1995	648.1	41.9	130.7	217.4	181.2	65.5	11.3	28.5	60.5	28.5	76.4	108.4	88.3	36.3	6.8	28.2	1.72
1996	649.5	44.7	125.7	211.1	186.4	69.5	12.1	28.6	60.6	29.7	77.0	106.6	89.8	37.5	7.2	28.2	1.74
1997	643.1	46.4	118.6	202.8	187.5	74.9	12.9	28.8	60.0	30.2	76.0	104.3	89.8	39.4	7.6	28.3	1.73
1998	635.9	48.3	113.5	193.1	188.5	78.9	13.6	28.9	59.2	30.9	74.9	101.5	90.6	40.4	7.9	28.3	1.72
1999	621.9	48.4	110.7	181.9	185.3	81.3	14.3	29.0	57.8	30.9	73.0	98.3	89.6	40.6	8.1	28.4	1.70
2000	604.4	45.8	107.7	170.7	180.1	85.0	15.1	29.1	55.9	29.3	70.0	94.3	87.9	41.4	8.3	28.5	1.65
2001	594.6	44.2	108.8	159.9	178.9	86.5	16.3	29.2	54.7	28.0	69.0	91.7	88.0	41.5	8.8	28.6	1.63
2002	596.1	43.5	110.9	153.4	180.5	90.5	17.3	29.3	54.7	27.1	69.1	91.5	89.9	43.0	9.1	28.7	1.65
2003	621.5	44.2	116.6	156.9	187.2	97.4	19.1	29.4	56.8	26.9	71.3	95.8	94.9	46.4	9.8	28.8	1.73
2004	639.7	45.1	121.1	160.0	190.6	102.2	20.8	29.4	58.2	26.9	72.8	97.6	99.6	48.8	10.4	28.9	1.78
2005	645.8	44.8	122.1	164.3	188.2	104.1	22.2	29.5	58.3	26.3	71.6	97.9	100.7	50.3	10.8	29.1	1.79
2006	669.6	45.5	127.8	172.6	189.4	110.5	23.7	29.5	60.2	26.6	73.2	100.6	104.8	53.8	11.4	29.1	1.86
2002 March	143.3	10.5	26.5	37.4	43.2	21.6	4.1	29.3	53.3	26.5	67.0	90.4	87.1	41.7	8.7	28.7	1.61
June	147.2	10.4	26.7	37.9	45.5	22.4	4.3	29.4	54.2	26.2	66.8	90.6	90.9	42.6	9.0	28.8	1.63
Sept	155.0	11.4	28.9	39.9	46.9	23.4	4.5	29.3	56.4	28.2	71.4	94.5	92.6	44.2	9.4	28.7	1.70
Dec	150.6	11.2	28.8	38.2	45.0	23.0	4.5	29.3	54.8	27.7	71.0	90.4	88.8	43.5	9.3	28.7	1.65
2003 March	147.4	10.9	27.9	37.5	44.0	22.6	4.6	29.3	54.7	26.8	69.1	92.8	90.5	43.7	9.6	28.8	1.66
June	155.1	10.7	28.5	39.3	47.4	24.5	4.7	29.5	56.9	26.0	70.0	96.4	96.4	46.9	9.6	28.9	1.73
Sept	162.8	11.5	30.5	41.0	49.3	25.6	5.0	29.4	59.1	27.7	74.0	99.4	99.2	48.3	10.1	28.9	1.79
Dec	156.0	11.2	29.7	39.1	46.5	24.6	4.8	29.4	56.6	27.1	72.1	94.6	93.6	46.5	9.8	28.8	1.72
2004 March	155.2	11.0	29.3	38.7	46.6	24.7	4.9	29.4	56.8	26.5	70.8	95.0	97.9	47.4	9.8	28.9	1.74
June	157.4	10.7	29.3	39.4	47.7	25.2	5.0	29.5	57.6	25.7	70.9	96.6	100.4	48.5	10.1	29.0	1.76
Sept	165.4	11.7	31.4	41.6	49.0	26.3	5.4	29.4	59.9	27.7	75.0	101.0	102.0	50.1	10.7	28.9	1.83
Dec	161.7	11.6	31.1	40.3	47.2	26.0	5.5	29.4	58.5	27.6	74.3	97.7	98.2	49.4	10.9	28.9	1.79
2005 March	154.3	10.9	29.3	38.9	45.0	24.7	5.4	29.4	56.5	26.0	69.6	94.0	97.6	48.5	10.7	29.0	1.74
June	159.8	10.7	29.6	40.3	47.5	26.2	5.4	29.5	57.8	25.3	69.7	96.2	101.9	50.8	10.6	29.1	1.78
Sept	170.2	11.9	32.5	43.7	49.4	26.9	5.7	29.4	60.9	27.6	75.7	103.2	104.9	51.6	11.1	29.0	1.88
Dec	161.7	11.3	30.7	41.4	46.3	26.3	5.7	29.4	57.9	26.3	71.3	97.9	98.3	50.4	11.0	29.0	1.78
2006 March	159.5	11.1	30.5	40.7	45.3	26.3	5.6	29.5	58.2	26.3	70.9	96.1	101.6	52.0	11.0	29.1	1.79
June	166.2	11.4	31.2	42.9	47.6	27.1	5.9	29.5	60.0	26.6	71.8	100.4	105.7	53.0	11.3	29.1	1.85
Sept	174.9	12.0	33.5	45.6	49.0	28.9	6.0	29.4	62.4	27.7	76.1	105.4	107.5	55.9	11.4	29.1	1.93
Dec	169.0	11.1	32.6	43.5	47.5	28.1	6.2	29.5	60.3	25.7	74.0	100.5	104.3	54.4	11.8	29.2	1.86
2007[5] March	163.3[p]	10.8[p]	30.8[p]	42.5[p]	45.5[p]	27.4[p]	6.3[p]	29.6[p]	59.4[p]	25.4[p]	70.1[p]	97.6[p]	105.8[p]	54.8[p]	12.1[p]	29.3[p]	1.83[p]
June	169.2[p]	10.8[p]	31.4[p]	44.4[p]	47.7[p]	28.7[p]	6.2[p]	29.6[p]	60.9[p]	25.1[p]	70.7[p]	100.9[p]	109.6[p]	56.8[p]	11.9[p]	29.4[p]	1.88[p]

Note: The rates for women of all ages, under 20, and 40 and over are based upon the populations of women aged 15–44, 15–19, and 40–44 respectively.

1 Unstandardised and therefore takes no account of the age structure of the population.

2 Standardised to take account of the age structure of the population. This measure is more appropriate for use when analysing trends or making comparisons between different geographies.

3 TFR (total fertility rate) is the number of children that would be born to a woman if current patterns of fertility persisted throughout her childbearing life. It is sometimes called the TPFR (total period fertility rate).

4 Births per 1,000 women in the age-group; all quarterly age-specific fertility rates are adjusted for days in the quarter. They are not adjusted for seasonality.

5 Birth rates for 2007 are based on the 2006-based population projections for 2007.

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Table 3.2 Live births outside marriage: age of mother and type of registration

England and Wales

Numbers (thousands), mean age and percentages

Year and quarter	Age of mother at birth: All ages	Under 20	20–24	25–29	30–34	35–39	40 and over	Mean age[1] (years)	Age of mother at birth: All ages	Under 20	20–24	25–29	30–34	35–39	40 and over	Registration[2]: Joint: Same[3] address	Joint: Different[3] addresses	Sole
	Live births outside marriage (numbers)								Percentage of total live births in age group							As a percentage of all births outside marriage		
1971	65.7	21.6	22.0	11.5	6.2	3.2	1.1	23.7	8.4	26.1	7.7	4.7	5.7	7.0	9.0	45.5		54.5
1976	53.8	19.8	16.6	9.7	4.7	2.3	0.7	23.3	9.2	34.2	9.1	4.4	5.2	8.6	10.1	51.0		49.0
1981	81.0	26.4	28.8	14.3	7.9	1.3	0.9	23.4	12.8	46.7	14.8	6.6	6.2	3.9	12.5	58.2		41.8
1986	141.3	39.6	54.1	27.7	13.1	5.7	1.1	23.8	21.4	69.0	28.2	12.1	10.1	12.6	14.7	46.6	19.6	33.8
1991	211.3	43.4	77.8	52.4	25.7	9.8	2.1	24.8	30.2	82.9	44.9	21.1	16.0	18.3	21.3	54.6	19.8	25.6
1992	215.2	40.1	77.1	55.9	28.9	10.9	2.3	25.2	31.2	83.7	47.2	22.8	17.3	19.3	22.9	55.4	20.7	23.9
1993	216.5	38.2	75.0	57.5	31.4	11.9	2.5	25.5	32.2	84.8	49.4	24.4	18.4	20.2	23.5	54.8	22.0	23.2
1994	215.5	35.9	71.0	58.5	34.0	13.4	2.7	25.8	32.4	85.5	50.6	25.5	18.9	21.2	25.2	57.5	19.8	22.7
1995	219.9	36.3	69.7	59.6	37.0	14.4	3.0	26.0	33.9	86.6	53.3	27.4	20.4	22.0	26.2	58.1	20.1	21.8
1996	232.7	39.3	71.1	62.3	40.5	16.2	3.2	26.1	35.8	88.0	56.5	29.5	21.7	23.4	26.7	58.1	19.9	21.9
1997	238.2	41.1	69.5	63.4	42.2	18.2	3.7	26.2	37.0	88.7	58.6	31.3	22.5	24.3	28.6	59.5	19.3	21.2
1998	240.6	43.0	67.8	62.4	43.9	19.6	3.9	26.3	37.8	89.1	59.7	32.3	23.3	24.8	29.0	60.9	18.3	20.8
1999	241.9	43.0	67.5	61.2	45.0	20.8	4.3	26.4	38.9	89.0	61.0	33.6	24.3	25.6	30.2	61.8	18.2	19.9
2000	238.6	41.1	67.5	59.1	43.9	22.3	4.7	26.5	39.5	89.7	62.6	34.6	24.4	26.2	31.0	62.7	18.2	19.2
2001	238.1	39.5	68.1	56.8	45.2	23.3	5.1	26.7	40.0	89.5	62.6	35.5	25.3	26.9	31.6	63.2	18.4	18.4
2002	242.0	38.9	70.2	55.8	46.4	25.1	5.6	26.8	40.6	89.5	63.3	36.4	25.7	27.7	32.2	63.7	18.5	17.8
2003	257.2	39.9	75.7	58.2	49.2	27.8	6.4	26.9	41.4	90.2	64.9	37.1	26.3	28.5	33.3	63.5	19.0	17.4
2004	269.7	41.0	79.8	61.4	50.7	29.7	7.1	27.0	42.2	91.0	65.9	38.4	26.6	29.0	34.0	63.6	19.6	16.8
2005	276.5	41.2	82.1	64.4	50.8	30.3	7.7	27.0	42.8	91.8	67.2	39.2	27.0	29.1	34.8	63.5	20.2	16.3
2006	291.4	42.3	87.7	69.3	51.4	32.2	8.4	27.0	43.5	93.0	68.6	40.1	27.1	29.2	35.5	63.7	20.8	15.6
2002 March	58.0	9.4	16.7	13.6	10.9	6.0	1.3	26.8	40.5	89.4	63.0	36.4	25.4	27.7	31.5	63.2	18.5	18.3
June	58.3	9.3	16.6	13.5	11.4	6.1	1.4	26.8	39.6	89.4	62.2	35.6	25.0	27.2	31.7	64.2	18.2	17.7
Sept	63.4	10.2	18.4	14.6	12.3	6.5	1.5	26.8	40.9	89.3	63.8	36.6	26.1	27.9	32.7	63.9	18.5	17.5
Dec	62.3	10.0	18.4	14.1	11.9	6.5	1.5	26.8	41.4	89.7	64.1	36.9	26.4	28.0	32.8	63.3	18.9	17.8
2003 March	61.0	9.8	18.0	13.9	11.6	6.3	1.5	26.8	41.4	90.1	64.5	37.0	26.9	29.1	33.3	63.0	18.9	18.1
June	62.8	9.6	18.3	14.2	12.2	6.9	1.6	27.0	40.5	90.0	64.0	36.2	25.7	28.3	33.7	64.0	18.5	17.4
Sept	67.6	10.3	20.0	15.3	13.0	7.3	1.7	26.9	41.5	90.2	65.6	38.3	26.4	28.6	33.3	63.7	19.3	18.0
Dec	65.8	10.2	19.5	14.9	12.5	7.3	1.6	26.9	42.2	90.4	65.6	38.0	27.7	29.5	32.9	63.3	19.4	17.4
2004 March	65.2	10.1	19.3	14.8	12.5	7.0	1.7	26.9	42.0	91.2	65.8	38.2	26.8	28.2	34.3	63.1	19.4	17.4
June	65.2	9.8	19.1	14.9	12.5	7.3	1.7	27.0	41.4	91.0	65.1	37.7	26.2	28.8	34.5	63.9	19.5	16.6
Sept	70.2	10.7	20.7	16.1	13.0	7.9	1.8	27.0	42.4	91.2	66.1	38.6	26.5	30.0	33.5	63.7	19.7	16.6
Dec	69.1	10.6	20.7	15.7	12.7	7.5	1.9	26.9	42.7	90.6	66.6	39.0	27.0	29.0	33.9	63.6	19.8	16.6
2005 March	66.3	10.1	19.6	15.2	12.2	7.3	1.9	27.0	43.0	92.0	67.0	39.0	27.1	29.6	35.2	63.1	20.3	16.6
June	66.6	9.8	19.7	15.4	12.5	7.4	1.8	27.0	41.7	91.2	66.5	38.2	26.4	28.1	33.5	63.7	19.8	16.5
Sept	73.7	10.9	22.1	17.3	13.4	7.9	2.1	26.9	43.3	92.0	68.0	39.6	27.2	29.3	35.7	63.7	20.3	16.0
Dec	69.9	10.4	20.7	16.5	12.6	7.7	2.0	27.0	43.2	92.1	67.4	39.8	27.3	29.5	34.8	63.5	20.3	16.2
2006 March	68.7	10.3	20.8	16.0	12.0	7.6	1.9	26.9	43.1	93.1	68.1	39.4	26.5	28.9	34.4	63.1	20.9	16.0
June	71.4	10.5	21.2	16.9	12.8	7.8	2.1	27.0	43.0	92.6	68.0	39.4	26.9	28.8	35.0	63.7	20.6	15.6
Sept	76.8	11.1	23.1	18.6	13.4	8.4	2.2	27.0	43.9	92.8	69.0	40.7	27.3	29.2	36.9	64.1	20.5	15.4
Dec	74.5	10.3	22.6	17.8	13.2	8.4	2.2	27.1	44.1	93.3	69.2	40.9	27.8	29.8	35.7	63.6	21.0	15.4
2007 March	72.1[p]	10.1[p]	21.6[p]	17.6[p]	12.6[p]	8.2[p]	2.2[p]	27.1[p]	44.2[p]	93.4[p]	69.9[p]	41.4[p]	27.6[p]	29.8[p]	35.4[p]	64.1[p]	20.5[p]	15.4[p]
June	73.4[p]	10.0[p]	21.8[p]	18.2[p]	13.0[p]	8.3[p]	2.2[p]	27.1[p]	43.4[p]	92.5[p]	69.4[p]	41.0[p]	27.2[p]	28.8[p]	34.6[p]	65.1[p]	19.9[p]	14.9[p]

1 Unstandardised and therefore takes no account of the age structure of the population.
2 Births outside marriage can be registered by both the mother and father (joint) or by the mother alone (sole).
3 Usual address(es) of parents.
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Table 4.1 Conceptions: age of woman at conception

England and Wales (residents)

Numbers (thousands) and rates; and percentage terminated by abortion

Year and quarter	Age of woman at conception								
	All ages	Under 16	Under 18	Under 20	20–24	25–29	30–34	35–39	40 and over
(a) numbers (thousands)									
1991	853.7	7.5	40.1	101.6	233.3	281.5	167.5	57.6	12.1
1996	816.9	8.9	43.5	94.9	179.8	252.6	200.0	75.5	14.1
1999	774.0	7.9	42.0	98.8	157.6	218.5	197.1	86.0	16.0
2000	767.0	8.1	41.3	97.7	159.0	209.3	195.3	88.7	17.0
2001	763.7	7.9	41.0	96.0	161.6	199.3	196.7	92.2	17.8
2002	787.0	7.9	42.0	97.1	167.8	199.4	204.3	98.9	19.6
2003	806.8	8.0	42.2	98.6	175.3	199.8	209.0	103.1	20.9
2004	826.8	7.6	42.2	101.3	181.3	205.1	209.6	106.8	22.8
2005	841.8	7.9	42.3	102.3	185.5	211.3	209.2	110.0	23.6
2006	see footnote 1								
2003 March	198.2	1.9	10.5	24.5	42.9	49.4	51.2	25.2	4.9
June	198.5	2.1	10.8	24.7	43.2	49.1	51.1	25.2	5.2
Sept	200.1	2.0	10.2	23.7	43.1	49.3	52.8	26.1	5.2
Dec	210.0	2.0	10.7	25.7	46.1	52.0	54.0	26.7	5.6
2004 March	207.9	2.0	10.9	26.2	45.9	51.1	52.6	26.6	5.6
June	200.1	1.9	10.6	25.0	43.7	49.3	50.4	25.9	5.7
Sept	203.6	1.8	10.0	24.0	44.1	50.7	52.7	26.6	5.6
Dec	215.2	1.9	10.8	26.1	47.7	54.0	54.0	27.6	5.8
2005 March	204.6	1.9	10.4	25.1	45.4	50.8	51.0	26.6	5.7
June	204.7	2.0	10.5	25.1	45.2	51.0	50.7	26.9	5.8
Sept	210.9	2.0	10.4	25.3	45.6	53.3	53.1	27.5	6.0
Dec	221.7	2.0	11.0	26.8	49.3	56.2	54.3	29.1	6.0
(b) rates (conceptions per thousand women in age group)									
1991	77.7	8.9	44.6	64.1	120.2	135.1	90.1	34.4	6.6
1996	76.2	9.5	46.3	63.2	110.1	127.6	96.3	40.7	8.4
1999	71.9	8.3	45.1	63.1	103.9	118.0	95.3	42.9	9.1
2000	70.9	8.3	43.9	62.5	103.2	115.7	95.3	43.2	9.4
2001	70.3	8.0	42.7	60.8	102.5	114.2	96.7	44.3	9.6
2002	72.2	7.9	42.9	60.6	104.4	119.0	101.7	47.0	10.3
2003	73.7	7.9	42.4	60.0	107.2	122.0	106.0	49.1	10.7
2004	75.2	7.5	41.8	60.3	109.0	125.1	109.6	51.0	11.4
2005	76.0	7.8	41.4	60.1	108.7	125.8	112.0	53.2	11.5
2006	see footnote 1								
2003 March	73.6	7.8	42.9	61.1	107.2	121.3	104.6	48.6	10.4
June	72.8	8.3	43.5	60.5	106.2	120.0	103.6	48.0	10.8
Sept	72.5	7.9	40.6	57.0	104.3	119.4	106.6	49.3	10.5
Dec	76.0	7.8	42.6	61.5	111.0	126.9	109.8	50.5	11.2
2004 March	76.2	7.8	43.5	63.2	111.5	125.4	109.3	51.1	11.4
June	73.2	7.7	42.2	60.1	105.9	121.1	105.5	49.7	11.5
Sept	73.6	7.1	39.2	56.8	105.0	122.6	109.9	50.6	11.1
Dec	77.7	7.4	42.4	61.5	112.9	129.9	113.2	52.8	11.4
2005 March	75.1	7.6	41.5	60.0	108.9	123.8	109.8	51.8	11.4
June	74.2	8.0	41.1	59.1	106.7	122.1	108.5	52.0	11.4
Sept	75.5	7.8	40.5	59.0	105.7	125.6	113.3	52.8	11.7
Dec	79.3	7.9	42.8	62.4	113.6	131.7	116.7	55.9	11.5
(c) percentage terminated by abortion									
1991	*19.4*	*51.1*	*39.9*	*34.5*	*22.2*	*13.4*	*13.7*	*22.0*	*41.6*
1996	*20.8*	*49.2*	*40.0*	*36.2*	*25.7*	*15.6*	*14.1*	*21.2*	*37.6*
1999	*22.6*	*52.6*	*43.0*	*38.6*	*28.5*	*17.5*	*14.7*	*21.2*	*37.0*
2000	*22.7*	*54.0*	*44.2*	*39.3*	*29.2*	*17.7*	*14.5*	*20.5*	*35.4*
2001	*23.2*	*55.8*	*45.7*	*40.4*	*29.7*	*18.4*	*14.6*	*20.4*	*34.6*
2002	*22.5*	*55.6*	*45.3*	*39.9*	*28.8*	*17.9*	*13.9*	*19.5*	*34.6*
2003	*22.5*	*57.4*	*45.7*	*40.2*	*29.0*	*17.9*	*13.6*	*18.9*	*34.7*
2004	*22.4*	*57.2*	*45.6*	*40.1*	*28.9*	*18.2*	*13.2*	*18.3*	*33.0*
2005	*22.2*	*57.1*	*46.3*	*40.3*	*28.6*	*18.0*	*13.2*	*17.7*	*32.8*
2006	see footnote 1								
2003 March	*22.8*	*58.9*	*46.1*	*40.2*	*29.5*	*17.9*	*13.8*	*19.7*	*34.5*
June	*23.1*	*58.3*	*46.2*	*40.9*	*29.3*	*18.4*	*14.2*	*19.2*	*36.1*
Sept	*21.6*	*56.9*	*45.3*	*39.5*	*28.0*	*17.1*	*13.0*	*18.0*	*33.8*
Dec	*22.5*	*55.7*	*45.0*	*40.3*	*29.0*	*18.1*	*13.5*	*18.5*	*34.5*
2004 March	*22.7*	*58.2*	*45.7*	*40.2*	*29.4*	*18.5*	*13.4*	*18.2*	*32.9*
June	*23.0*	*57.2*	*46.3*	*40.8*	*29.2*	*18.6*	*13.7*	*19.2*	*33.5*
Sept	*21.9*	*56.8*	*45.8*	*40.0*	*28.4*	*17.9*	*12.8*	*17.8*	*33.0*
Dec	*22.0*	*56.3*	*44.5*	*39.3*	*28.6*	*17.8*	*13.0*	*18.2*	*32.5*
2005 March	*22.5*	*57.5*	*47.3*	*41.1*	*29.2*	*18.1*	*13.1*	*18.0*	*32.6*
June	*22.7*	*57.0*	*45.8*	*40.3*	*28.9*	*18.6*	*13.9*	*17.8*	*33.8*
Sept	*21.4*	*56.2*	*45.3*	*39.0*	*27.5*	*17.5*	*12.6*	*17.2*	*32.1*
Dec	*22.2*	*57.5*	*46.9*	*40.6*	*28.7*	*17.8*	*13.1*	*17.7*	*32.7*

Note: Conception figures are estimates derived from birth registrations and abortion notifications.
Rates for women of all ages, under 16, under 18, under 20 and 40 and over are based on the population of women aged 15–44, 13–15, 15–17, 15–19 and 40–44 respectively.
For a quarterly analysis of conceptions to women under 18 for local authority areas see the National Statistics website, www.statistics.gov.uk

1 Provisional annual figures for 2006 are available at the following link: www.statistics.gov.uk/statbase/product.asp?vlnk=15055

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Table 4.2 Abortions: residents and non-residents; age and gestation (residents only)

England and Wales

Numbers (thousands) and rates; and percentages for gestation weeks

Year and quarter	All ages: All[1] women	All ages: Residents[1]	All ages: Non-residents[1]	All women (residents): Age group: Under 16	16–19	20–24	25–29	30–34	35–44	45 and over	Gestation weeks (percentages): Under 9	9–12	13–19	20 and over
	Numbers (thousands)										**Percentages**			
1971	126.8	94.6	32.2	2.3	18.2	24.5	17.3	14.2	15.9	0.5	*16.6*	*57.9*	*21.8*	*1.0*
1976	129.7	101.9	27.8	3.4	24.0	23.6	19.3	14.6	14.7	0.5	*24.8*	*55.8*	*15.0*	*1.1*
1981	162.5	128.6	33.9	3.5	31.4	34.3	21.9	18.7	17.6	0.6	*31.0*	*53.4*	*13.5*	*1.3*
1986	172.3	147.6	24.7	3.9	33.8	45.3	28.7	18.0	17.5	0.4	*33.4*	*53.8*	*11.5*	*1.4*
1991	179.5	167.4	12.1	3.2	31.1	52.7	38.6	23.4	17.9	0.4	*35.2*	*52.9*	*10.6*	*1.2*
1996	177.5	167.9	9.6	3.6	28.8	46.4	39.3	28.2	21.1	0.4	*40.0*	*48.7*	*10.1*	*1.3*
1997	179.7	170.1	9.6	3.4	29.9	45.0	40.2	28.9	22.3	0.5	*41.2*	*47.9*	*9.6*	*1.2*
1998	187.4	177.9	9.5	3.8	33.2	45.8	40.4	30.4	23.8	0.5	*41.4*	*47.6*	*9.7*	*1.3*
1999	183.2	173.7	9.5	3.6	32.8	45.0	38.5	29.1	24.1	0.5	*42.5*	*46.5*	*9.5*	*1.4*
2000	185.4	175.5	9.8	3.7	33.2	47.1	37.9	28.7	24.4	0.5	*43.3*	*45.0*	*10.3*	*1.5*
2001	186.3	176.4	9.9	3.7	33.4	48.3	36.5	28.8	25.2	0.5	*42.8*	*45.0*	*10.6*	*1.6*
2002	185.4	175.9	9.5	3.7	33.0	48.4	35.8	28.5	26.0	0.5	*42.2*	*45.2*	*11.0*	*1.6*
2003	190.7	181.6	9.1	4.0	34.2	51.1	36.0	28.7	26.9	0.5	*43.6*	*43.7*	*11.1*	*1.6*
2004	194.5	185.7	8.8	3.8	35.5	52.8	37.8	28.1	27.3	0.5	*46.2*	*41.5*	*10.8*	*1.6*
2005	194.4	186.4	7.9	3.8	35.3	53.3	38.3	27.8	27.2	0.6	*53.6*	*35.7*	*9.3*	*1.4*
2006	201.2	193.7	7.4	4.0	37.3	55.3	40.4	28.2	27.9	0.7	*54.9*	*34.3*	*9.2*	*1.5*
2003 March	50.0	47.6	2.4	1.0	9.1	13.4	9.4	7.5	7.0	0.1	*40.9*	*45.3*	*12.2*	*1.6*
June	47.7	45.4	2.3	1.0	8.5	12.7	9.1	7.2	6.7	0.1	*42.5*	*44.4*	*11.4*	*1.6*
Sept	47.7	44.8	2.3	1.0	8.3	12.5	8.9	7.2	6.7	0.1	*43.3*	*43.9*	*11.2*	*1.5*
Dec	46.0	43.9	2.1	0.9	8.3	12.5	8.6	6.9	6.5	0.1	*47.7*	*41.0*	*9.6*	*1.7*
2004 March	51.1	48.7	2.4	1.0	9.4	13.9	9.8	7.5	7.0	0.1	*41.7*	*44.5*	*12.1*	*1.7*
June	48.9	46.6	2.3	1.0	8.9	13.3	9.5	6.9	6.9	0.1	*43.6*	*43.3*	*11.2*	*1.8*
Sept	48.4	46.3	2.1	1.0	8.9	13.0	9.4	7.0	6.9	0.1	*47.8*	*40.5*	*10.3*	*1.4*
Dec	46.1	44.2	1.9	1.0	8.4	12.6	9.1	6.6	6.5	0.1	*52.0*	*37.2*	*9.5*	*1.3*
2005 March	50.1	47.9	2.1	0.9	9.1	13.9	9.7	7.2	7.0	0.1	*47.2*	*40.4*	*11.0*	*1.4*
June	50.1	48.0	2.1	1.0	9.2	13.9	9.9	7.1	6.9	0.1	*53.8*	*35.6*	*9.2*	*1.4*
Sept	47.0	45.1	1.9	1.0	8.5	12.7	9.3	6.9	6.7	0.1	*56.5*	*33.6*	*8.5*	*1.3*
Dec	47.2	45.3	1.8	0.9	8.6	12.9	9.5	6.7	6.7	0.1	*57.2*	*32.9*	*8.3*	*1.5*
2006 March	52.4	50.4	2.0	1.0	9.8	14.6	10.4	7.2	7.3	0.2	*50.6*	*37.3*	*10.5*	*1.6*
June	51.3	49.3	2.0	1.0	9.4	14.2	10.3	7.2	7.1	0.2	*53.6*	*35.3*	*9.4*	*1.7*
Sept	49.8	47.9	1.8	1.0	9.2	13.6	10.0	7.0	6.9	0.2	*56.5*	*33.0*	*9.0*	*1.5*
December	47.7	46.0	1.6	1.0	8.8	13.0	9.6	6.7	6.7	0.1	*59.5*	*31.3*	*7.9*	*1.3*
2007 March[p]	54.8	52.9	1.9	1.1	10.6	15.2	11.0	7.3	7.3	0.2	*54.1*	*35.0*	*9.4*	*1.5*
June[p]	50.9	49.1	1.8	1.1	9.9	14.2	10.3	6.8	6.8	0.2	*56.6*	*32.7*	*9.2*	*1.5*
Sept[p]	48.2	46.5	1.7	1.0	9.3	13.0	9.8	6.3	6.8	0.2	*58.4*	*31.5*	*8.8*	*1.3*
Rates (per thousand women residents)	ASR[2] (women 15–44)	Crude rate[3] (women 15–44)												
1971	9.9	10.1	:	2.3	13.9	13.1	10.7	10.0	5.6	0.3				
1976	10.2	10.5	:	2.9	16.9	14.2	10.4	9.2	5.3	0.3				
1981	11.9	12.4	:	3.0	19.4	18.6	13.1	10.1	5.9	0.4				
1986	13.0	13.5	:	3.7	22.0	21.9	15.5	10.8	5.1	0.3				
1991	15.0	15.2	:	3.8	24.0	27.1	18.5	12.6	5.1	0.3				
1996	16.0	15.7	:	3.9	24.2	28.4	19.9	13.6	6.0	0.2				
1997	16.3	15.9	:	3.7	24.4	28.8	20.7	13.8	6.2	0.3				
1998	17.1	16.6	:	4.0	26.8	30.2	21.2	14.6	6.5	0.3				
1999	16.8	16.2	:	3.8	26.3	29.7	20.8	14.1	6.4	0.3				
2000	17.0	16.3	:	3.9	26.9	30.7	20.9	14.1	6.3	0.3				
2001	17.0	16.2	:	3.7	26.6	30.6	20.9	14.2	6.4	0.3				
2002	17.0	16.1	:	3.7	25.8	30.1	21.4	14.2	6.5	0.3				
2003	17.5	16.6	:	3.9	26.1	31.2	22.1	14.6	6.6	0.3				
2004	17.8	16.9	:	3.7	26.5	31.9	23.3	14.7	6.7	0.3				
2005	17.8	17.0	:	3.7	26.3	32.0	23.6	14.5	6.6	0.3				
2006	18.3	17.5	:	3.9	27.3	32.5	24.3	15.1	6.8	0.4				
2003 March	18.3	17.4	:	4.0	28.0	33.0	22.9	15.1	6.9	0.3				
June	17.4	16.6	:	4.0	26.1	31.1	22.3	14.5	6.6	0.3				
Sept	17.2	16.4	:	4.0	25.3	30.6	21.8	14.6	6.6	0.3				
Dec	16.8	16.0	:	3.7	25.2	30.4	21.1	14.2	6.4	0.3				
2004 March	18.7	17.8	:	3.9	28.3	33.8	24.1	15.4	6.9	0.3				
June	17.9	17.0	:	3.8	26.7	32.3	23.3	14.4	6.7	0.3				
Sept	17.8	16.9	:	3.7	26.6	31.5	23.0	14.8	6.8	0.3				
Dec	17.0	16.2	:	3.5	25.0	30.4	22.3	14.2	6.3	0.3				
2005 March	18.4	17.5	:	3.7	27.0	33.5	23.8	15.2	6.8	0.3				
June	18.4	17.5	:	3.8	27.2	33.3	24.1	15.3	6.7	0.3				
Sept	17.3	16.4	:	3.8	25.2	30.5	22.6	14.8	6.5	0.3				
Dec	17.4	16.5	:	3.6	25.4	30.9	23.0	14.4	6.5	0.3				
2006 March	19.3	18.4	:	3.9	29.0	34.8	25.0	15.9	7.0	0.3				
June	18.9	18.0	:	3.9	27.8	33.8	24.7	16.0	6.8	0.4				
Sept	18.3	17.5	:	4.0	27.0	32.2	23.9	15.9	6.7	0.4				
Dec	17.5	16.8	:	4.0	25.9	30.8	22.8	15.3	6.5	0.3				
2007 March[p]	19.9	19.1	:	4.6	30.9	35.0	25.4	16.6	7.1	0.4				
June[p]	18.4	17.7	:	4.4	28.7	32.5	23.5	15.4	6.5	0.4				
Sept[p]	17.4	16.8	:	4.1	26.9	29.6	22.4	14.7	6.6	0.4				

Notes: Rates for under 16 and 45 and over are based on female populations aged 13–15 and 45–49 respectively.
1 Includes cases with not stated age and/or gestation week.
2 Rates for all women residents age-standardised to the European population for ages 15–44.
3 Includes incomplete forms that have been returned to practitioners.
p provisional

Table 5.1 Period expectation of life at birth and selected age

Constituent countries of the United Kingdom[1]

Years

Year	Males								Year	Females							
	At birth	At age								At birth	At age						
		5	20	30	50	60	70	80			5	20	30	50	60	70	80
United Kingdom																	
1981	70.8	66.9	52.3	42.7	24.1	16.3	10.1	5.8	1981	76.8	72.7	57.9	48.2	29.2	20.8	13.3	7.5
1986	71.9	67.8	53.2	43.6	24.9	16.8	10.5	6.0	1986	77.7	73.4	58.6	48.8	29.8	21.2	13.8	7.8
1991	73.2	68.9	54.2	44.7	26.0	17.7	11.1	6.4	1991	78.7	74.3	59.5	49.7	30.6	21.9	14.3	8.2
1996	74.3	69.8	55.1	45.6	26.9	18.5	11.6	6.6	1996	79.4	74.9	60.1	50.3	31.2	22.3	14.5	8.3
2000	75.4	70.9	56.2	46.6	28.0	19.5	12.3	7.0	2000	80.2	75.6	60.8	51.0	31.9	23.0	15.0	8.6
2001[2]	75.6	71.2	56.4	46.9	28.2	19.7	12.5	7.1	2001[2]	80.4	75.8	61.0	51.2	32.1	23.2	15.1	8.7
2002[2]	75.9	71.4	56.6	47.1	28.5	19.9	12.6	7.1	2002[2]	80.5	75.9	61.1	51.3	32.2	23.3	15.2	8.7
2003[2]	76.2	71.7	56.9	47.4	28.7	20.2	12.8	7.3	2003[2]	80.7	76.1	61.3	51.5	32.4	23.4	15.3	8.7
2004[2]	76.5	72.0	57.3	47.7	29.0	20.5	13.1	7.4	2004[2]	80.9	76.4	61.5	51.7	32.6	23.6	15.5	8.8
2005[2]	76.9	72.4	57.6	48.0	29.4	20.8	13.4	7.6	2005[2]	81.3	76.7	61.9	52.0	32.9	23.9	15.8	9.0
England and Wales																	
1981	71.0	67.1	52.5	42.9	24.3	16.4	10.1	5.8	1981	77.0	72.9	58.1	48.3	29.4	20.9	13.4	7.5
1986	72.1	68.0	53.4	43.8	25.0	16.9	10.5	6.1	1986	77.9	73.6	58.8	49.0	30.0	21.4	13.9	7.9
1991	73.4	69.1	54.4	44.8	26.1	17.8	11.2	6.4	1991	78.9	74.5	59.7	49.9	30.8	22.0	14.4	8.3
1996	74.5	70.1	55.4	45.8	27.1	18.7	11.6	6.6	1996	79.6	75.1	60.2	50.4	31.3	22.5	14.6	8.4
2000	75.6	71.2	56.4	46.9	28.1	19.6	12.3	7.0	2000	80.3	75.8	61.0	51.1	32.0	23.1	15.1	8.6
2001[2]	75.9	71.4	56.7	47.1	28.4	19.9	12.5	7.1	2001[2]	80.5	76.0	61.2	51.3	32.2	23.3	15.2	8.7
2002[2]	76.1	71.6	56.9	47.3	28.6	20.1	12.7	7.2	2002[2]	80.7	76.1	61.3	51.5	32.3	23.4	15.3	8.7
2003[2]	76.4	71.9	57.2	47.6	28.9	20.3	12.9	7.3	2003[2]	80.9	76.3	61.5	51.7	32.5	23.6	15.4	8.8
2004[2]	76.8	72.3	57.5	47.9	29.2	20.6	13.2	7.4	2004[2]	81.1	76.6	61.7	51.9	32.7	23.8	15.6	8.9
2005[2]	77.2	72.7	57.9	48.3	29.6	21.0	13.5	7.6	2005[2]	81.5	76.9	62.0	52.2	33.1	24.1	15.9	9.1
England																	
1981	71.1	67.1	52.5	42.9	24.3	16.4	10.1	5.8	1981	77.0	72.9	58.2	48.4	29.4	20.9	13.4	7.5
1986	72.2	68.1	53.4	43.8	25.1	17.0	10.6	6.1	1986	77.9	73.6	58.8	49.0	30.0	21.4	13.9	7.9
1991	73.4	69.1	54.4	44.9	26.2	17.8	11.2	6.4	1991	78.9	74.5	59.7	49.9	30.8	22.0	14.4	8.3
1996	74.5	70.1	55.4	45.9	27.1	18.7	11.7	6.6	1996	79.6	75.1	60.3	50.5	31.3	22.5	14.6	8.4
2000	75.7	71.2	56.5	46.9	28.2	19.6	12.4	7.0	2000	80.3	75.8	61.0	51.2	32.0	23.1	15.1	8.6
2001[2]	75.9	71.4	56.7	47.1	28.5	19.9	12.6	7.1	2001[2]	80.6	76.0	61.2	51.4	32.2	23.3	15.2	8.7
2002[2]	76.1	71.7	56.9	47.4	28.7	20.1	12.7	7.2	2002[2]	80.7	76.1	61.3	51.5	32.4	23.4	15.3	8.7
2003[2]	76.5	72.0	57.2	47.6	28.9	20.4	12.9	7.3	2003[2]	80.9	76.4	61.5	51.7	32.6	23.6	15.4	8.8
2004[2]	76.8	72.3	57.6	48.0	29.2	20.7	13.2	7.4	2004[2]	81.1	76.6	61.7	51.9	32.8	23.8	15.6	8.9
2005[2]	77.2	72.7	57.9	48.3	29.6	21.0	13.5	7.6	2005[2]	81.5	76.9	62.1	52.3	33.1	24.1	15.9	9.1
Wales																	
1981	70.4	66.5	51.9	42.2	23.6	15.8	9.7	5.6	1981	76.4	72.3	57.5	47.7	28.9	20.5	13.1	7.4
1986	71.6	67.5	52.8	43.2	24.6	16.6	10.3	6.0	1986	77.5	73.3	58.5	48.7	29.7	21.1	13.7	7.8
1991	73.1	68.8	54.1	44.6	25.8	17.6	11.0	6.4	1991	78.8	74.3	59.5	49.7	30.6	21.8	14.3	8.3
1996	73.9	69.4	54.7	45.3	26.6	18.2	11.3	6.4	1996	79.1	74.6	59.7	49.9	30.9	22.1	14.4	8.3
2000	74.9	70.5	55.8	46.3	27.6	19.1	12.0	6.8	2000	79.8	75.3	60.4	50.6	31.5	22.6	14.7	8.4
2001[2]	75.3	70.8	56.0	46.6	28.0	19.5	12.3	7.0	2001[2]	80.0	75.4	60.6	50.8	31.7	22.8	14.9	8.5
2002[2]	75.5	70.9	56.2	46.8	28.2	19.7	12.4	7.1	2002[2]	80.1	75.5	60.7	50.9	31.8	22.9	15.0	8.6
2003[2]	75.8	71.2	56.5	47.0	28.4	19.9	12.6	7.2	2003[2]	80.3	75.7	60.9	51.1	32.0	23.1	15.1	8.6
2004[2]	76.1	71.6	56.8	47.3	28.7	20.2	12.8	7.3	2004[2]	80.6	76.0	61.1	51.3	32.2	23.3	15.2	8.7
2005[2]	76.6	72.0	57.3	47.7	29.2	20.6	13.2	7.6	2005[2]	80.9	76.3	61.5	51.6	32.6	23.7	15.5	8.9
Scotland																	
1981	69.1	65.2	50.6	41.1	22.9	15.4	9.6	5.5	1981	75.3	71.2	56.4	46.7	27.9	19.7	12.7	7.2
1986	70.2	66.0	51.4	41.9	23.5	15.8	9.9	5.7	1986	76.2	71.9	57.1	47.3	28.4	20.1	13.0	7.5
1991	71.4	67.1	52.5	43.0	24.6	16.6	10.4	6.1	1991	77.1	72.7	57.9	48.1	29.2	20.7	13.5	7.9
1996	72.2	67.8	53.1	43.7	25.3	17.3	10.9	6.3	1996	77.9	73.3	58.5	48.8	29.8	21.2	13.8	8.0
2000	73.1	68.6	53.9	44.6	26.3	18.2	11.5	6.6	2000	78.6	74.0	59.2	49.4	30.5	21.8	14.1	8.1
2001	73.3	68.8	54.2	44.8	26.6	18.4	11.7	6.8	2001	78.8	74.2	59.4	49.6	30.7	22.0	14.3	8.2
2002	73.5	69.0	54.3	45.0	26.7	18.6	11.8	6.8	2002	78.9	74.3	59.5	49.7	30.8	22.1	14.4	8.2
2003	73.8	69.3	54.6	45.2	27.0	18.8	12.0	6.9	2003	79.1	74.5	59.7	49.9	30.9	22.2	14.5	8.3
2004	74.2	69.7	55.0	45.6	27.3	19.1	12.2	7.0	2004	79.3	74.7	59.9	50.1	31.1	22.4	14.7	8.4
2005	74.6	70.1	55.4	45.9	27.7	19.4	12.5	7.2	2005	79.6	75.0	60.2	50.4	31.4	22.7	14.9	8.5
Northern Ireland																	
1981	69.2	65.4	50.9	41.5	23.2	15.6	9.7	5.8	1981	75.5	71.6	56.8	47.1	28.3	20.0	12.8	7.3
1986	70.9	66.8	52.2	42.7	24.2	16.4	10.4	6.2	1986	77.1	72.9	58.1	48.3	29.3	20.8	13.4	7.8
1991	72.6	68.2	53.6	44.1	25.5	17.3	11.0	6.4	1991	78.4	74.0	59.2	49.4	30.3	21.6	14.2	8.3
1996	73.8	69.4	54.7	45.3	26.6	18.2	11.4	6.6	1996	79.2	74.7	59.9	50.0	30.9	22.1	14.4	8.4
2000	74.8	70.4	55.7	46.2	27.6	19.1	11.9	6.6	2000	79.8	75.2	60.4	50.6	31.5	22.6	14.6	8.2
2001	75.2	70.7	56.1	46.6	27.9	19.4	12.3	6.9	2001	80.1	75.6	60.7	50.9	31.8	22.9	14.9	8.4
2002	75.6	71.1	56.4	46.9	28.2	19.7	12.4	7.0	2002	80.4	75.9	61.0	51.2	32.0	23.1	15.1	8.5
2003	75.8	71.4	56.7	47.1	28.4	19.9	12.6	7.2	2003	80.6	76.0	61.1	51.3	32.2	23.3	15.2	8.6
2004	76.0	71.6	56.9	47.4	28.7	20.2	12.8	7.3	2004	80.8	76.3	61.4	51.6	32.5	23.5	15.4	8.7
2005	76.1	71.6	57.0	47.5	28.9	20.4	13.0	7.3	2005	81.0	76.4	61.6	51.8	32.7	23.7	15.6	8.8

Note: Figures from 1981 are calculated from the population estimates revised in the light of the 2001 Census. All figures are based on a three-year period.

1 All countries: figures for all years based on registered deaths

2 Figures for 2001 to 2005 for the United Kingdom, England and Wales, England and for Wales are based on revised population estimates for 2002-2005 and death registrations.

Table 6.1 Deaths: age and sex

England and Wales

Numbers (thousands) and rates

Year and quarter	All ages	Age group: Under 1[1]	1–4	5–9	10–14	15–19	20–24	25–34	35–44	45–54	55–64	65–74	75–84	85 and over
Numbers (thousands)														
Males														
1976	300.1	4.88	0.88	0.68	0.64	1.66	1.66	3.24	5.93	20.4	52.0	98.7	80.3	29.0
1981	289.0	4.12	0.65	0.45	0.57	1.73	1.58	3.18	5.54	16.9	46.9	92.2	86.8	28.5
1986	287.9	3.72	0.57	0.33	0.38	1.43	1.75	3.10	5.77	14.4	43.6	84.4	96.2	32.2
1991	277.6	2.97	0.55	0.34	0.35	1.21	1.76	3.69	6.16	13.3	34.9	77.2	95.8	39.3
1996	268.7	2.27	0.44	0.24	0.29	0.93	1.41	4.06	5.84	13.6	30.1	71.0	90.7	47.8
1999	264.3	2.08	0.41	0.22	0.28	0.90	1.27	3.85	5.93	13.6	28.7	64.3	90.4	52.3
2000	255.5	1.89	0.34	0.22	0.28	0.87	1.22	3.76	6.05	13.4	27.9	60.6	87.1	51.9
2001	252.4	1.81	0.32	0.19	0.28	0.88	1.27	3.63	6.07	13.3	27.5	57.5	87.0	52.7
2002	253.1	1.81	0.32	0.20	0.28	0.83	1.24	3.47	6.20	12.9	27.7	56.3	88.3	53.6
2003	253.9	1.81	0.31	0.19	0.24	0.81	1.23	3.26	6.32	12.7	28.2	55.1	89.6	54.0
2004	244.1	1.79	0.29	0.17	0.26	0.78	1.15	3.10	6.19	12.2	27.0	52.5	87.3	51.3
2005	243.3	1.87	0.28	0.16	0.25	0.75	1.11	2.89	6.14	12.1	27.3	51.0	84.8	54.7
2006	240.9	1.86	0.29	0.19	0.26	0.84	1.21	3.13	6.32	12.3	27.6	48.9	81.9	56.2
Females														
1976	298.5	3.46	0.59	0.45	0.42	0.62	0.67	1.94	4.04	12.8	29.6	67.1	104.7	72.1
1981	288.9	2.90	0.53	0.30	0.37	0.65	0.64	1.82	3.74	10.5	27.2	62.8	103.6	73.9
1986	293.3	2.59	0.49	0.25	0.27	0.56	0.67	1.65	3.83	8.8	25.8	58.4	106.5	83.6
1991	292.5	2.19	0.44	0.25	0.22	0.46	0.64	1.73	3.70	8.4	21.3	54.2	103.3	95.7
1996	291.5	1.69	0.32	0.18	0.20	0.43	0.51	1.85	3.66	8.9	18.2	50.2	96.7	108.7
1999	291.8	1.55	0.30	0.17	0.22	0.39	0.47	1.67	3.79	9.0	18.0	45.1	93.9	117.2
2000	280.1	1.49	0.25	0.16	0.18	0.38	0.47	1.69	3.87	9.1	17.6	42.2	89.3	113.4
2001	277.9	1.43	0.27	0.19	0.18	0.38	0.47	1.59	3.77	8.9	17.6	40.5	88.8	113.9
2002	280.4	1.31	0.24	0.16	0.19	0.38	0.43	1.61	3.77	8.7	17.7	39.6	90.0	116.3
2003	284.4	1.50	0.28	0.15	0.19	0.35	0.46	1.57	3.86	8.5	18.0	39.0	92.7	117.9
2004	268.4	1.43	0.23	0.13	0.16	0.38	0.46	1.49	3.80	8.1	17.6	36.9	88.3	109.4
2005	269.1	1.37	0.22	0.13	0.18	0.38	0.48	1.48	3.81	8.2	17.8	36.0	86.4	113.1
2006	261.7	1.51	0.27	0.14	0.17	0.38	0.44	1.38	3.80	8.1	17.9	34.5	81.2	111.9
Rates (deaths per 1,000 population in each age group)														
Males														
1976	12.5	16.2	0.65	0.34	0.31	0.88	0.96	0.92	2.09	6.97	19.6	50.3	116.4	243.2
1981	12.0	12.6	0.53	0.27	0.29	0.82	0.83	0.89	1.83	6.11	17.7	45.6	105.2	226.5
1986	11.8	11.0	0.44	0.21	0.23	0.72	0.83	0.88	1.68	5.27	16.6	42.8	101.2	215.4
1991	11.2	8.3	0.40	0.21	0.23	0.72	0.89	0.94	1.76	4.56	13.9	38.1	93.1	205.6
1996	10.7	6.8	0.32	0.14	0.18	0.60	0.85	1.01	1.67	4.06	11.9	34.5	85.0	198.8
1999	10.4	6.5	0.31	0.12	0.16	0.56	0.83	0.99	1.60	3.99	10.9	31.6	79.9	194.4
2000	10.0	6.1	0.26	0.13	0.16	0.54	0.79	0.98	1.59	3.92	10.4	29.7	75.9	187.5
2001	9.9	5.9	0.25	0.11	0.16	0.53	0.80	0.97	1.56	3.89	10.0	28.0	74.0	186.4
2002	9.8	5.9	0.25	0.12	0.16	0.49	0.77	0.94	1.57	3.86	9.7	27.2	73.5	187.7
2003	9.8	5.7	0.25	0.11	0.14	0.46	0.75	0.91	1.58	3.81	9.6	26.4	72.9	191.0
2004	9.4	5.5	0.23	0.10	0.15	0.44	0.67	0.87	1.53	3.67	9.0	25.0	69.9	176.0
2005	9.3	5.7	0.24	0.10	0.16	0.48	0.69	0.89	1.56	3.61	8.9	24.1	67.4	172.1
2006[2]	9.1	5.4	0.23	0.12	0.15	0.46	0.67	0.89	1.55	3.58	8.8	23.2	64.7	163.4
2004 March	10.2	5.9	0.25	0.12	0.15	0.46	0.67	0.92	1.59	3.81	9.4	26.6	76.9	199.3
June	9.1	5.2	0.23	0.12	0.14	0.39	0.74	0.94	1.58	3.72	8.8	24.5	66.9	164.0
Sept	8.7	5.3	0.23	0.10	0.18	0.46	0.71	0.86	1.47	3.58	8.5	23.2	64.5	154.8
Dec	9.5	5.5	0.23	0.08	0.11	0.43	0.58	0.78	1.49	3.58	9.2	25.4	70.8	183.0
2005 March	10.5	6.2	0.26	0.09	0.17	0.46	0.71	0.88	1.56	3.83	9.7	26.6	77.3	201.2
June	9.1	5.5	0.25	0.10	0.18	0.42	0.59	0.83	1.57	3.53	8.8	23.4	65.8	162.9
Sept	8.3	5.3	0.20	0.09	0.12	0.40	0.63	0.85	1.44	3.46	8.3	22.2	59.6	146.0
Dec	9.3	5.6	0.21	0.11	0.11	0.39	0.62	0.73	1.46	3.54	8.8	24.0	66.9	176.9
2006[2] March	10.2	5.3	0.29	0.14	0.16	0.46	0.72	0.95	1.59	3.82	9.5	25.4	73.7	189.6
June	9.0	5.5	0.24	0.10	0.15	0.45	0.69	0.89	1.57	3.60	8.8	23.3	63.7	158.5
Sept	8.4	5.4	0.14	0.11	0.15	0.51	0.58	0.83	1.49	3.43	8.3	21.5	58.7	143.8
Dec	8.9	5.6	0.26	0.13	0.15	0.43	0.69	0.90	1.54	3.50	8.7	22.5	62.7	162.1
2007[3] March[P]	9.9	5.3	0.28	0.12	0.14	0.47	0.64	0.91	1.54	3.63	9.1	24.1	69.4	183.8
June[P]	8.8	5.7	0.26	0.12	0.14	0.44	0.65	0.90	1.50	3.39	8.6	22.1	60.9	153.7
Females														
1976	11.8	12.2	0.46	0.24	0.21	0.35	0.40	0.56	1.46	4.30	10.1	26.0	74.6	196.6
1981	11.3	9.4	0.46	0.19	0.19	0.32	0.35	0.52	1.26	3.80	9.5	24.1	66.2	178.2
1986	11.4	8.0	0.40	0.17	0.17	0.29	0.33	0.47	1.12	3.24	9.2	23.4	62.5	169.4
1991	11.2	6.4	0.33	0.16	0.15	0.29	0.33	0.44	1.05	2.87	8.2	21.8	58.7	161.6
1996	11.0	5.3	0.25	0.10	0.12	0.29	0.31	0.46	1.04	2.63	7.1	20.6	55.8	158.9
1999	11.0	5.1	0.24	0.10	0.13	0.25	0.31	0.43	1.01	2.61	6.7	19.2	53.4	162.6
2000	10.5	5.1	0.20	0.10	0.11	0.25	0.30	0.44	1.00	2.62	6.4	18.1	50.8	155.2
2001	10.4	4.9	0.22	0.12	0.11	0.24	0.30	0.42	0.96	2.57	6.3	17.4	50.1	155.0
2002	10.4	4.5	0.20	0.10	0.11	0.24	0.27	0.44	0.94	2.54	6.0	17.0	50.4	159.4
2003	10.6	4.9	0.24	0.10	0.12	0.21	0.28	0.43	0.95	2.51	5.9	16.7	51.3	165.6
2004	9.9	4.6	0.20	0.09	0.10	0.22	0.27	0.42	0.93	2.39	5.7	15.8	48.6	154.3
2005	9.9	4.4	0.19	0.09	0.11	0.22	0.27	0.40	0.90	2.38	5.6	15.4	48.1	152.7
2006[2]	9.6	4.6	0.22	0.09	0.10	0.22	0.26	0.39	0.92	2.33	5.6	14.8	45.7	143.8
2004 March	11.1	5.3	0.23	0.09	0.10	0.27	0.32	0.43	0.95	2.52	6.0	17.2	54.3	178.4
June	9.4	4.1	0.17	0.08	0.11	0.26	0.27	0.42	0.94	2.41	5.4	14.9	46.4	143.8
Sept	9.1	4.3	0.20	0.06	0.09	0.20	0.24	0.42	0.88	2.27	5.4	14.8	44.5	137.0
Dec	10.1	4.6	0.19	0.11	0.09	0.17	0.27	0.40	0.93	2.36	5.8	16.0	49.4	157.9
2005 March	11.6	4.8	0.22	0.09	0.13	0.20	0.32	0.46	0.95	2.57	6.0	17.3	57.0	184.7
June	9.5	4.7	0.20	0.10	0.10	0.25	0.27	0.37	0.97	2.31	5.5	15.0	46.6	144.2
Sept	8.7	3.9	0.14	0.06	0.09	0.20	0.24	0.36	0.86	2.32	5.4	13.8	42.0	129.7
Dec	9.8	4.2	0.19	0.08	0.11	0.22	0.24	0.41	0.84	2.31	5.6	15.3	46.8	152.7
2006[2] March	11.0	5.0	0.25	0.07	0.08	0.24	0.30	0.39	1.01	2.42	6.1	16.4	52.5	172.0
June	9.4	4.6	0.22	0.10	0.14	0.19	0.24	0.42	0.88	2.35	5.5	14.7	45.4	140.9
Sept	8.6	4.3	0.19	0.10	0.08	0.23	0.22	0.36	0.91	2.27	5.3	13.7	41.1	124.3
Dec	9.2	4.5	0.24	0.09	0.12	0.23	0.25	0.41	0.89	2.27	5.5	14.3	43.7	138.7
2007[3] March[P]	10.8	4.5	0.24	0.07	0.12	0.27	0.26	0.38	0.96	2.29	5.9	16.1	51.2	166.4
June[P]	9.2	4.6	0.22	0.10	0.13	0.18	0.22	0.44	0.87	2.32	5.5	14.1	42.9	136.6

Note: Figures represent the numbers of deaths registered in each year up to 1992 and the numbers of deaths occurring in each year from 1993 to 2005. 2006 figures and provisional 2007 figures relate to registrations.

Death rates from 2002 to 2005 have been updated to include the latest revised mid-year population estimates that take into account improved estimates of international migration.

1 Rates per 1,000 live births.

2 Death rates for 2006 have been calculated using the mid 2006 population estimates published on 22 August 2007.

3 Death rates for 2007 are based on the 2006-based population projections for 2007.

Table 6.2 Deaths: subnational

Government Office Regions of England

Rates

Year and quarter		North East	North West	Yorkshire and The Humber	East Midlands	West Midlands	East	London	South East	South West
Total deaths (deaths per 1,000 population of all ages)										
1996		11.7	11.7	11.2	10.7	10.7	10.3	9.4	10.7	11.7
1997		11.6	11.6	11.1	10.5	10.6	10.2	9.0	10.6	11.7
1998		11.9	11.7	11.2	10.8	10.6	10.2	8.8	10.4	11.4
1999		11.6	11.5	10.9	10.7	10.7	10.3	8.7	10.5	11.6
2000		10.8	10.7	10.3	10.0	10.3	9.9	8.2	9.8	11.3
2001		11.1	11.0	10.4	10.1	10.2	9.9	7.9	9.9	11.0
2002		11.2	11.0	10.5	10.2	10.3	10.0	7.8	10.0	11.1
2003		11.3	11.0	10.5	10.3	10.5	9.9	7.9	9.9	11.2
2004		11.0	10.5	10.1	9.7	9.9	9.5	7.3	9.4	10.4
2005		10.8	10.4	9.9	9.7	9.9	9.4	7.1	9.4	10.4
2006[1]		10.5	10.2	9.8	9.7	9.7	9.4	6.8	9.2	10.2
2005	March	12.1	12.0	11.4	11.1	11.5	10.9	8.2	10.9	12.1
	June	10.6	10.0	9.6	9.5	9.5	9.2	6.8	9.1	10.2
	Sept	9.5	9.2	8.8	8.6	8.8	8.4	6.3	8.3	9.3
	Dec	10.7	10.3	9.9	9.9	9.8	9.5	6.9	9.4	10.4
2006[1]	March	11.5	11.4	10.8	10.9	11.1	10.8	7.8	10.9	11.7
	June	10.6	10.2	9.7	9.6	9.6	9.3	6.7	9.0	10.0
	Sept	9.4	9.3	8.9	8.8	8.8	8.3	6.2	8.2	9.2
	Dec	10.6	9.9	9.7	9.6	9.4	9.1	6.5	8.9	10.0
2007[1]	March[p]	11.9	11.7	11.0	10.7	11.0	10.3	7.4	10.1	11.6
	June[p]	9.9	9.9	9.5	9.1	9.4	8.8	6.5	8.8	9.8
Infant mortality (deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births)										
1996		6.2	6.3	6.5	6.3	6.8	5.3	6.3	5.3	5.5
1997		5.8	6.7	6.5	5.7	7.0	4.8	5.8	5.0	5.8
1998		5.0	6.3	6.9	5.6	6.5	5.0	6.0	4.4	4.8
1999		5.6	6.5	6.3	6.0	6.9	4.6	6.0	4.8	4.7
2000		6.5	6.2	7.3	5.4	6.8	4.4	5.4	4.4	4.7
2001		5.4	5.8	5.5	4.9	6.4	4.5	6.1	4.2	5.4
2002		4.8	5.4	6.1	5.6	6.6	4.3	5.5	4.5	4.3
2003		4.9	5.9	5.7	5.9	7.4	4.5	5.4	4.2	4.1
2004		4.6	5.4	5.8	4.9	6.3	4.2	5.2	3.9	4.5
2005		4.7	5.6	6.0	4.8	6.6	4.0	5.2	3.9	4.5
2006		5.4	5.6	5.7	5.4	6.4	4.1	4.9	4.1	4.0
2005	March	4.8	6.1	6.0	7.3	7.1	4.8	5.4	3.9	5.3
	June	4.8	5.4	7.0	5.1	6.4	4.2	5.7	3.4	4.4
	Sept	4.8	4.8	5.4	3.4	7.5	3.7	4.7	4.0	3.6
	Dec	4.5	6.1	5.6	3.8	5.6	3.3	5.0	4.4	4.9
2006	March	5.4	6.0	5.4	5.9	6.6	3.8	5.5	4.3	4.2
	June	6.4	5.5	6.1	5.0	7.0	4.3	4.6	4.2	3.7
	Sept	5.4	5.2	4.8	5.3	6.7	3.6	4.8	4.2	3.6
	Dec	4.5	5.7	6.6	5.5	5.3	4.6	4.7	3.9	4.7
2007	March[p]	5.2	5.1	4.5	5.3	6.4	4.3	4.5	3.9	4.5
	June[p]	4.5	5.6	7.2	6.4	6.0	4.0	5.1	4.3	3.9
Neonatal mortality (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 live births)										
1996		4.1	4.0	4.2	4.2	4.9	3.5	4.4	3.5	3.8
1997		3.7	4.3	4.4	3.7	5.0	3.3	3.7	3.4	3.9
1998		3.1	4.1	4.5	3.7	4.8	3.4	4.1	2.9	3.3
1999		4.1	4.4	4.1	4.3	4.8	3.0	4.1	3.2	3.2
2000		4.4	4.3	5.0	4.1	5.0	3.0	3.7	3.1	3.0
2001		3.5	3.8	3.2	3.4	4.4	2.9	4.1	2.9	3.7
2002		3.2	3.6	4.0	4.0	4.8	2.9	3.6	2.9	3.1
2003		3.2	4.1	4.0	4.2	5.1	3.0	3.7	2.8	2.9
2004		2.8	3.6	3.8	3.5	4.7	2.9	3.6	2.8	3.2
2005		2.9	3.8	4.0	3.5	4.9	2.6	3.4	2.7	3.2
2006		3.8	3.8	4.0	4.0	4.6	2.9	3.4	2.8	2.9
2005	March	3.3	3.9	4.3	5.1	4.9	2.9	3.2	2.8	3.5
	June	3.0	3.5	4.3	3.7	4.9	3.0	3.8	2.1	3.2
	Sept	2.7	3.1	3.9	2.8	5.7	2.7	3.5	2.9	2.7
	Dec	2.8	4.6	3.5	2.4	4.1	1.8	3.0	3.1	3.5
2006	March	4.1	3.8	4.0	4.2	4.6	2.7	3.4	2.9	3.2
	June	4.0	3.8	4.2	3.9	5.1	3.2	3.3	2.7	2.4
	Sept	3.4	3.5	3.3	3.9	5.4	2.5	3.5	2.9	2.6
	Dec	3.7	4.1	4.7	4.0	3.2	3.1	3.6	2.5	3.6
2007	March[p]	4.0	3.7	3.2	3.4	4.8	2.9	3.1	2.6	3.1
	June[p]	1.8	3.7	5.2	4.5	4.5	2.6	3.5	3.0	2.4
Perinatal mortality (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total births)										
1996		9.2	8.6	8.3	8.7	10.2	7.5	9.6	7.8	7.5
1997		8.0	8.9	8.3	7.7	9.6	7.3	9.0	7.3	8.7
1998		8.2	8.7	9.2	8.0	9.3	7.4	9.0	6.8	7.3
1999		8.2	8.7	8.3	7.8	9.9	7.0	9.0	6.9	7.8
2000		8.5	8.6	9.6	7.8	9.6	7.1	9.0	6.6	6.6
2001		7.8	8.7	7.5	7.9	9.1	7.1	8.9	6.9	7.2
2002		8.1	8.5	9.0	8.5	10.0	7.5	9.3	6.9	6.8
2003		7.8	9.0	9.1	9.5	10.2	7.3	9.6	7.0	7.0
2004		7.9	8.4	9.4	8.1	9.6	7.6	9.3	7.0	7.2
2005		7.8	8.2	9.4	7.6	9.9	6.4	8.5	6.8	6.8
2006		8.0	8.3	8.5	8.4	9.2	6.7	8.8	7.0	6.6
2005	March	6.6	8.4	9.7	9.3	9.0	6.9	8.4	6.7	6.8
	June	9.2	8.2	10.4	7.6	10.9	7.4	8.8	6.5	7.5
	Sept	7.1	7.4	8.6	7.2	11.0	6.1	8.9	7.1	5.7
	Dec	8.4	8.9	9.0	6.5	8.8	5.3	7.9	7.0	7.1
2006	March	8.2	9.0	7.6	8.7	9.6	7.4	9.1	7.6	6.5
	June	8.7	8.3	9.2	9.1	10.1	7.0	8.7	6.8	6.8
	Sept	7.5	8.0	8.4	8.4	9.6	6.6	8.7	6.6	6.2
	Dec	7.8	7.8	8.7	7.6	7.4	6.0	8.9	7.0	7.0
2007	March[p]	7.3	8.1	7.5	6.4	8.8	7.4	7.9	6.4	6.6
	June[p]	7.2	7.3	9.2	8.4	9.7	6.7	9.1	7.0	6.8

Note: Figures represent the numbers of deaths occurring in each year with the exception of 2006 figures and provisional 2007 figures which relate to registrations.
Death rates from 2002 to 2005 have been updated to include the latest revised mid-year population estimates that take into account improved estimates of international migration.
1 Total deaths rates for 2006 and 2007 have been calculated using the mid-2006 population estimates published on 22 August 2007.
p provisional.

Table 6.3 Deaths: selected causes (International Classification)[1] and sex

England and Wales

Number (thousands) and rate for all deaths and age-standardised rates per million population for selected causes

Year and quarter	All deaths		All causes (age - standardised rates per million population[2])	Malignant neoplasms									
	Number (thousands)	Crude rate per 100,000 population		Oesophagus	Stomach	Colon	Rectosigmoid junction, rectum, and anus	Trachea, bronchus and lung	Melanoma of skin	Other malignant neoplasms of skin	Breast	Cervix uteri	Ovary
			A00–R99 V01–Y89	(C15)	(C16)	(C18)	(C19–C21)	(C33–C34)	(C43)	(C44)	(C50)	(C53)	(C56)
Males													
1971	288.4	1,207	13,466	76	317	187	144	1,066	10	12	4	:	:
1981	289.0	1,196	12,189	90	251	181	135	1,028	17	9	3	:	:
1991	277.6	1,125	10,291	117	185	194	117	842	23	10	3	:	:
1998	264.7	1,064	8,981	129	132	169	95	643	26	8	3	:	:
1999	264.3	1,044	8,862	127	127	161	90	611	27	7	2	:	:
2000	255.5	1,005	8,437	128	118	158	89	592	28	7	2	:	:
2001	252.4	987	8,188	129	111	155	89	570	26	7	3	:	:
2002	253.1	985	8,081	131	110	151	90	559	27	8	3	:	:
2003	253.9	982	8,000	135	102	145	90	539	28	8	2	:	:
2004	244.1	939	7,554	129	95	143	92	521	30	9	2	:	:
2005	243.3	929	7,356	132	93	137	92	515	28	8	2	:	:
2006[3]	240.9	913	7,123	131	83	132	90	509	31	7	2	:	:
2004 March	66.2	1,024	8,215	130	95	145	86	519	27	10	3	:	:
June	58.8	909	7,329	123	98	146	91	512	30	8	2	:	:
Sept	56.8	869	7,006	128	93	142	98	515	30	8	2	:	:
Dec	62.4	954	7,671	136	93	141	91	540	31	11	1	:	:
2005 March	67.8	1,050	8,273	134	92	139	91	529	29	7	3	:	:
June	59.1	905	7,077	135	95	131	94	490	27	7	2	:	:
Sept	55.1	834	6,641	130	95	134	89	500	27	8	3	:	:
Dec	61.3	928	7,353	130	88	145	94	540	29	9	2	:	:
2006[3] March	66.5	1,023	7,931	131	82	134	98	522	32	7	2	:	:
June	59.4	904	7,058	132	82	128	87	504	30	7	2	:	:
Sept	55.5	835	6,536	128	81	133	85	497	29	7	1	:	:
Dec	59.5	894	6,985	131	86	133	91	515	31	8	3	:	:
2007[4] March[p]	65.3	997	7,617	126	88	132	86	522	33	7	2	:	:
June[p]	58.1	877	6,748	130	84	122	86	492	31	8	3	:	:
Females													
1971	278.9	1,104	8,189	40	149	176	79	183	14	6	379	83	126
1981	288.9	1,134	7,425	42	111	157	74	252	16	5	405	69	121
1991	292.5	1,122	6,410	50	74	146	61	300	18	4	401	54	118
1998	290.3	1,108	5,945	49	54	117	47	291	21	3	328	35	116
1999	291.8	1,097	5,929	52	51	115	46	289	20	3	319	33	111
2000	280.1	1,049	5,655	51	48	107	45	285	21	3	311	33	109
2001	277.9	1,038	5,543	48	46	103	45	283	20	3	308	31	112
2002	280.4	1,043	5,524	51	44	103	44	284	19	3	302	29	112
2003	284.4	1,055	5,575	50	42	98	46	285	20	3	293	27	108
2004	268.4	1,075	5,206	48	41	96	46	283	19	3	278	26	100
2005	269.4	990	5,188	48	39	96	46	290	21	3	284	26	102
2006[3]	261.7	956	4,989	48	35	93	46	300	19	4	277	24	99
2004 March	74.4	1,105	5,795	51	38	97	46	292	21	3	287	28	105
June	63.4	942	5,022	46	41	94	47	265	18	4	284	25	97
Sept	61.8	908	4,863	50	43	95	45	281	19	3	276	27	102
Dec	68.9	1,013	5,359	46	44	100	49	299	20	2	293	28	101
2005 March	77.9	1,162	5,974	50	41	92	47	290	20	4	292	26	101
June	64.7	953	5,033	45	36	96	47	288	22	4	281	27	105
Sept	59.6	868	4,629	50	40	102	43	283	20	3	281	26	99
Dec	67.2	979	5,133	47	39	95	45	300	20	3	281	24	104
2006[3] March	74.5	1,104	5,658	48	40	90	45	309	16	4	296	26	105
June	64.4	945	4,940	46	34	89	46	294	18	4	266	22	101
Sept	59.1	856	4,540	47	33	99	44	289	19	3	272	23	96
Dec	63.7	923	4,832	51	34	95	49	307	21	4	273	23	93
2007[4] March	73.9	1,090	5,524	49	36	92	49	314	22	4	283	25	95
June	62.8	915	4,756	48	31	88	45	296	22	4	267	22	97

Note: Figures represent the number of deaths registered in each year up to 1992 and the number of deaths occurring in each year from 1993 to 2005. 2006 figures and provisional 2007 figures relate to registrations.
The rates by cause of death in this table are based on final underlying cause. For further details see the Explanatory Notes in the 'Report: Death registrations in England and Wales, 2004: causes' in HSQ26.
Death rates from 2002 to 2005 have been updated to include the latest revised mid-year population estimates that take into account improved estimates of international migration.

1 The Ninth Revision of the International Classification of Diseases, 1975, came into operation in England and Wales on 1 January 1979. The Tenth Revision of the International Classification of Diseases, 1992, came into operation in England and Wales on 1 January 2001. The cause descriptions and codes relate to ICD-10. For changes to this table see 'In Brief', Health Statistics Quarterly 14.
2 Directly age-standardised to the European Standard Population. See Notes to Tables.
3 Death rates for 2006 are based on the 2004-based population projections for 2006.
4 Death rates for 2007 are based on the 2006 based population projections for 2007.
p provisional

Table 6.3 continued **Deaths: selected causes (International Classification)[1] and sex**

England and Wales

Age-standardised rates[2] per million population for selected causes

Malignant neoplasms													
Prostate	Bladder	Leukaemia	Diabetes mellitus	Ischaemic heart disease	Cerebro vascular diseases	Pneumonia	Bronchitis, emphysema and other chronic obstructive pulmonary disease	Asthma	Gastric and duodenal ulcer	Diseases of the liver	Land transport accidents	Intentional self-harm and events of undetermined intent with inquest verdict 'Open'	Year and quarter
(C61)	(C67)	(C91–C95)	(E10–E14)	(I20–I25)	(I60–I69)	(J12–J18)	(J40–J44)	(J45–J46)	(K25–K27)	(K70–K76)	(V01–V89)	(X60–X84, Y10–Y34)	
													Males
198	124	74	82	3,801	1,541	920	944	21	107	41	209	124	1971
214	121	74	82	3,664	1,141	1,053	683	28	90	58	119	151	1981
304	121	77	131	2,984	940	391	606	31	73	76	125	160	1991
277	99	67	94	2,215	706	720	463	18	60	115	86	152	1998
272	93	67	94	2,095	673	770	474	18	64	119	86	151	1999
260	92	67	88	1,959	622	735	416	17	59	119	86	141	2000
274	93	70	94	1,872	690	388	403	16	55	139	86	134	2001
271	90	68	91	1,784	690	388	396	15	56	144	83	131	2002
273	87	71	91	1,703	662	408	411	14	53	157	84	129	2003
267	85	67	83	1,566	595	360	364	15	50	151	77	125	2004
256	80	67	79	1,470	555	353	368	12	46	156	75	118	2005
250	81	68	74	1,353	520	320	343	10	45	161	83	123	2006[3]
279	86	67	91	1,713	694	466	464	15	54	149	69	137	2004 March
259	82	63	80	1,542	572	333	339	13	49	145	89	133	June
260	88	70	74	1,422	521	279	294	17	45	145	78	127	Sept
268	81	66	85	1,589	596	362	361	14	52	166	71	103	Dec
265	85	67	93	1,678	647	500	491	14	55	167	74	132	2005 March
251	80	65	75	1,446	536	327	358	13	45	149	77	122	June
249	77	65	67	1,292	485	247	271	9	42	145	82	115	Sept
260	79	70	81	1,467	554	340	357	12	43	163	66	104	Dec
256	79	73	86	1,543	611	434	440	11	52	158	83	128	2006[3] March
249	81	63	75	1,351	506	318	351	10	48	164	90	117	June
241	83	67	66	1,210	454	242	271	11	41	158	77	112	Sept
252	80	69	71	1,312	509	287	312	8	41	164	82	134	Dec
253	83	66	77	1,441	542	396	434	11	44	178	83	115	2007[4] March[P]
246	80	68	65	1,249	466	287	312	11	37	153	76	121	June[P]
													Females
:	32	47	89	1,668	1,352	624	193	25	44	31	82	84	1971
:	35	47	66	1,601	1,012	740	155	30	57	43	41	81	1981
:	34	44	95	1,407	812	325	211	30	46	49	45	51	1991
:	32	41	65	1,055	645	546	226	22	41	64	28	43	1998
:	30	45	65	986	629	591	241	22	39	67	28	45	1999
:	31	39	62	907	577	546	216	20	41	68	24	45	2000
:	29	41	62	878	620	307	220	19	39	77	23	40	2001
:	30	43	65	843	616	316	224	20	37	79	24	41	2002
:	30	39	66	811	606	337	244	20	36	81	24	41	2003
:	28	39	60	736	548	296	214	17	35	78	20	38	2004
:	28	39	57	686	519	298	224	17	32	81	22	38	2005
:	29	36	54	629	478	261	213	16	29	87	24	39	2006[3]
:	27	43	69	806	626	399	283	23	37	84	25	46	2004 March
:	30	39	54	720	530	254	184	16	33	80	21	42	June
:	28	39	55	674	496	227	167	14	32	80	19	42	Sept
:	28	39	63	750	550	307	221	18	37	86	20	36	Dec
:	30	43	65	806	605	453	320	24	36	88	26	40	2005 March
:	29	40	54	674	496	261	207	17	32	74	20	43	June
:	27	35	50	600	462	199	157	12	28	75	21	38	Sept
:	25	40	58	665	514	281	213	16	31	85	21	33	Dec
:	29	42	60	733	551	371	283	19	37	87	25	40	2006[3] March
:	27	34	56	637	477	259	214	16	27	85	27	37	June
:	29	35	51	562	427	186	163	13	27	86	21	41	Sept
:	29	35	51	585	459	231	193	16	25	89	23	38	Dec
:	29	40	58	689	518	354	299	18	28	96	22	33	2007[4] March[P]
:	29	36	49	570	440	228	204	14	27	85	26	32	June[P]

See notes opposite.

Report:

Health expectancies in the UK, 2004

Introduction

This report presents the latest figures on male and female health expectancy, at birth and at age 65, for the UK and its four constituent countries in 2004. While life expectancy provides an estimate of average expected life-span, health expectancy partitions total life expectancy into years free from health-related problems and years lived in ill-health.

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) produces two measures of health expectancy: healthy life expectancy (HLE), defined as expected years of life in 'good' or 'fairly good' health; and disability-free life expectancy (DFLE), defined as expected years of life free from limiting long-standing illness or disability. The methods and the data sources used to calculate health expectancies are reported in detail in the article 'Review of sources and methods to monitor healthy life expectancy' published in *Health Statistics Quarterly* 26.[1]

Table 1 shows the 2004 figures for life expectancy, HLE and DFLE at birth and at age 65 by sex for the UK and each constituent country, along with their corresponding 95 per cent confidence intervals.

Healthy life expectancy, 2004

In 2004, on average, males in the UK could expect to live in 'good' or 'fairly good' health (HLE) for 67.9 years at birth and 12.5 years at age 65. For females, the equivalent figures were 70.3 years and 14.5 years, respectively.

Of the four constituent countries of the UK, England had the highest HLE at birth for both sexes. This was also true for females at age 65, but the highest HLE for males at this age was in Northern Ireland.

For males at birth, HLE in England was significantly higher than in the other three countries Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland. The lowest estimate of HLE at birth was for Scotland at 65.6 years, 2.3 years lower than the estimate for the UK. At age 65, HLE was significantly higher in Northern Ireland and England, 12.8 and 12.7 years respectively, than in Scotland where HLE was 11.5 years.

For females at birth and at age 65, HLE was significantly higher in England than in Wales and Northern Ireland. While HLE estimates for Scotland at birth were the second highest in the UK at 69.6 years, this country had the lowest life expectancy. As a consequence, it is estimated that female residents of Scotland spend the least number of years in 'not good' health compared to other UK countries. The lowest HLE estimates for females were in Wales. At birth, HLE was 68.3 years, 2 years lower than the UK estimate; and at age 65 it was 13.2 years, 1.3 years lower than the UK estimate.

Disability-free life expectancy, 2004

In 2004, at birth, males in the UK could expect to live an average of 62.3 years free from limiting long-standing illness or a disability (DFLE), and 9.9 years at age 65. For females the equivalent DFLE figures were 63.9 years at birth and 10.7 years at age 65.

The variation between countries of the UK in DFLE was similar to the variation in HLE, except for Northern Ireland which had a significantly lower DFLE than England for both sexes at birth and at age 65.

DFLE estimates for Scotland were the second highest in the UK. As Scotland had the lowest life expectancy for both sexes, residents of Scotland could expect to live the least number of years with a disability compared to other UK countries.

For males, Northern Ireland had the lowest DFLE of all the constituent countries: 59.7 years at birth and 8.8 years at age 65. Similarly, for females, Northern Ireland also had the lowest DFLE estimates: 60.3 years at birth and 8.7 years at age 65.

Trends in health expectancies

The pattern of health expectancies by sex and age in 2004 is similar to that in 2003.[2] There are, however, slight differences with regard to country: Northern Ireland, for example, had the highest HLE for males at age 65 in 2004 but the second highest in 2003. The year-on-year variation in ranking between 2004 and 2003 is partly due to the sampling variability of the estimates arising from the use of survey data to estimate proportion of life spent in good/fairly good health or without disability. It can generally be expected that noticeable changes in life expectancy

Table 1 **Life expectancy, healthy life expectancy and disability-free life expectancy at birth and age 65: by country and sex, 2004**

United Kingdom

	Country	Life expectancy	Healthy life expectancy			Disability-free life expectancy		
		Years	Years	Lower 95 per cent confidence interval	Upper 95 per cent confidence interval	Years	Lower 95 per cent confidence interval	Upper 95 per cent confidence interval
At birth								
Males	United Kingdom	76.6	67.9	67.7	68.2	62.3	62.0	62.6
	Great Britain	76.6	68.0	67.7	68.2	62.3	62.0	62.7
	England	76.9	68.3	68.0	68.6	62.6	62.3	63.0
	Wales	76.3	66.5*	65.3	67.8	60.6*	59.1	62.0
	Scotland	74.2	65.6*	64.7	66.5	61.0*	60.0	62.0
	Northern Ireland	76.0	66.8*	66.3	67.4	59.7*	59.1	60.3
Females	United Kingdom	81.0	70.3	70.0	70.5	63.9	63.7	64.2
	Great Britain	81.0	70.3	70.1	70.6	64.0	63.7	64.4
	England	81.2	70.6	70.2	70.9	64.2	63.9	64.6
	Wales	80.7	68.3*	66.9	69.6	62.2*	60.8	63.7
	Scotland	79.3	69.6	68.7	70.5	63.4	62.3	64.4
	Northern Ireland	80.8	68.4*	67.8	69.0	60.3*	59.7	60.9
At age 65								
Males	United Kingdom	16.6	12.5	12.4	12.7	9.9	9.7	10.1
	Great Britain	16.6	12.5	12.3	12.7	9.9	9.7	10.2
	England	16.8	12.7	12.5	12.9	10.1	9.8	10.3
	Wales	16.4	11.8	11.0	12.7	9.3	8.4	10.3
	Scotland	15.5	11.5*	10.9	12.2	9.3	8.6	10.1
	Northern Ireland	16.4	12.8	12.4	13.2	8.8*	8.3	9.2
Females	United Kingdom	19.4	14.5	14.3	14.7	10.7	10.5	10.9
	Great Britain	19.4	14.5	14.3	14.7	10.7	10.5	10.9
	England	19.6	14.6	14.4	14.9	10.8	10.5	11.1
	Wales	19.2	13.2*	12.3	14.2	9.6	8.7	10.6
	Scotland	18.4	13.9	13.3	14.6	10.5	9.8	11.3
	Northern Ireland	19.3	13.6*	13.2	14.1	8.7*	8.3	9.2

* Significantly different from England at the 95% level

Source: Office for National Statistics

and health expectancies take place over several years rather than year-on-year. Analysis of change in estimates is further complicated by the fact that health expectancies for consecutive years are 3-year averages based upon overlapping rounds of survey data (for example, health expectancies for 2004 are based on the aggregated General Household Survey (GHS) and Continuous Household Survey for Northern Ireland (CHS) data for the years 2003, 2004 and 2005).

For the first time, using the current methodology, we are able to compare non-overlapping HLE and DFLE statistics based on estimates for 2001 and 2004.

Table 2 shows both the 2001 and 2004 figures for life expectancy, HLE and DFLE at birth and at age 65 by sex for the UK and each constituent country.

Estimates of HLE and DFLE rose between 2001 and 2004 indicating a general increase in the length of time that males and females may expect to live in 'good health' and free from disability. Indeed, for the UK as a whole, HLE and DFLE estimates rose significantly for males at birth and at age 65 between these years. For UK females, estimates of DFLE increased significantly at birth.

For the UK, between the years 2001 and 2004, HLE and DFLE estimates for males at birth rose by 1.1 and 2.0 years and, at age 65, by 0.6 and 1.1 years, respectively. The equivalent figures for females increased by 0.4 and 1.1 years at birth and 0.5 and 0.5 years at age 65.

There were significant increases over the period in estimated HLE and DFLE at birth and at age 65 for males in both England and Northern Ireland. In England, male HLE and DFLE estimates at birth rose by 1.2 and 1.9 years respectively and 0.7 and 1.2 years at age 65. In Northern Ireland, HLE and DFLE estimates for males at birth increased by 1.7 and 1.8 years, respectively, and 1.7 and 1.2 years at age 65.

For females, there were significant increases for HLE in Northern Ireland at age 65 (1.1 years) and DFLE in England at birth (1.2 years). In Wales, HLE for females at birth decreased between 2001 and 2004 (from 69.4 to 68.3 years), although this decrease is not statistically significant. The decline was first observed in 2003 and further falls in HLE in this group may become statistically significant if this trend persists.

These differences in the magnitude of change (in terms of absolute numbers of years) between 2001 and 2004 in HLE and DFLE compared to life expectancy (LE) are indicative of alterations in the proportion of life spent in 'good' or 'fairly good' health or free from disability.

At birth, for all countries, absolute increases in the number of years free from disability for males were more than twice the increase in LE. In Wales the increase in male DFLE was more than three times the increase in LE. For females absolute increases in DFLE were almost twice that of LE, except in Scotland and Northern Ireland where both measures increased to a similar extent. At age 65 absolute increases in DFLE compared to LE for males were more modest, except in Wales where the

increase in DFLE was more than twice that of LE and in Scotland where the increases in both measures were similar. For females at this age, increases in DFLE and LE were comparable in England and Scotland; in Wales the increase in DFLE was twice that of LE, while in Northern Ireland the increase in DFLE was less than half that of LE.

Absolute increases in HLE compared to LE for males were broadly similar at birth and at age 65, except in Northern Ireland where increases in the years spent in 'good' or 'fairly good' health were more than twice the increase in LE. Also in Scotland, absolute increases in HLE compared to LE were substantially lower at birth, and at age 65 where there was no apparent increase in HLE between 2001 and 2004. For females, absolute increases in HLE compared to LE were more variable at birth. In the UK, Great Britain and in England increases in HLE were slightly lower than increases in LE, while in Wales HLE figures fell between 2001 and 2004. In Scotland and Northern Ireland increases in HLE were around twice those in LE. At age 65 absolute increases in HLE compared to LE for females were broadly similar in all countries, except in Northern Ireland where the increase in HLE was almost twice that of LE.

In terms of the proportions of life spent in 'good' or 'fairly good' health, relative increases in HLE across the constituent countries were broadly consistent between 2001 and 2004. However, in terms of proportionate gains in the number of years free from disability, there has on the whole been a substantial increase across the constituent countries at birth and age 65 for males, and at birth for females. These data support the notion of the compression of morbidity over time, first hypothesised by Fries in 1980[3] where periods of ill-health and disability decline prior to death in an ageing population. These data also support the conclusions of Ahn et al.,[4] in a study of ageing populations across Europe whose data 'implies greater proportions of increased post-retirement or adult lives lived either in better health or free from disability'. It must be noted, however, that further comparisons in this series are required before firm conclusions supporting the compression or otherwise of morbidity can be drawn. It will be interesting to see if the trends identified between 2001 and 2004 continue between 2002 and 2005.

Website report and results

The results in this report can also be found on the National Statistics website at:
www.statistics.gov.uk/statbase/Product.asp?vlnk=12964
Figures on the National Statistics website include estimates of HLE and DFLE for the UK, Great Britain, England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland from 2001 to 2004. For Great Britain and England, long-term health expectancies trend data is also available for the period 1981 to 2001. All estimates (with 95 per cent confidence intervals) are presented along with the corresponding life expectancy figures.[5]

Table 2 **Life expectancy, healthy life expectancy and disability-free life expectancy, at birth and age 65: by country and sex, 2001 and 2004**

United Kingdom — Years

	Country	Life expectancy		Healthy life expectancy		Disability-free life expectancy	
		2001	2004	2001	2004	2001	2004
At birth							
Males	United Kingdom	75.7	76.6	66.8	67.9*	60.3	62.3*
	Great Britain	75.7	76.6	66.8	68.0*	60.4	62.3*
	England	76.0	76.9	67.1	68.3*	60.7	62.6*
	Wales	75.4	76.3	65.5	66.5	57.7	60.6
	Scotland	73.3	74.2	65.3	65.6	58.8	61.0*
	Northern Ireland	75.2	76.0	65.1	66.8*	57.9	59.7*
Females	United Kingdom	80.4	81.0	69.9	70.3	62.8	63.9*
	Great Britain	80.4	81.0	69.9	70.3	62.9	64.0*
	England	80.6	81.2	70.1	70.6	63.0	64.2*
	Wales	80.1	80.7	69.4	68.3	61.1	62.2
	Scotland	78.8	79.3	68.6	69.6	62.6	63.4
	Northern Ireland	80.1	80.8	67.2	68.4*	59.7	60.3
At age 65							
Males	United Kingdom	15.9	16.6	11.9	12.5*	8.8	9.9*
	Great Britain	15.9	16.6	11.9	12.5*	8.8	9.9*
	England	16.1	16.8	12.0	12.7*	8.9	10.1*
	Wales	15.7	16.4	11.1	11.8	7.3	9.3*
	Scotland	14.9	15.5	11.5	11.5	8.7	9.3
	Northern Ireland	15.7	16.4	11.1	12.8*	7.6	8.8*
Females	United Kingdom	19.0	19.4	14.0	14.5*	10.2	10.7
	Great Britain	19.0	19.4	14.0	14.5*	10.3	10.7
	England	19.2	19.6	14.2	14.6	10.4	10.8
	Wales	18.7	19.2	12.8	13.2	8.5	9.6
	Scotland	18.0	18.4	13.5	13.9	10.0	10.5
	Northern Ireland	18.7	19.3	12.5	13.6*	8.5	8.7

* Significant difference between 2001 and 2004 at the 95% level

Source: Office for National Statistics

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Report:

Deaths involving *Clostridium difficile*: England and Wales, 1999 and 2001–06

Introduction

This report presents the latest figures from the Office for National Statistics (ONS) database of deaths where *Clostridium difficile (C. difficile)* was mentioned as a contributory factor. It contains new data for deaths registered in 2006, and data for 1999 and 2001 to 2005 are provided on the same basis for comparison purposes. Data for 2000 are not available on a comparable basis (see methodology section).

Changes in this report

For the first time, data in this report are based on deaths registered in each calendar year. Previous reports have presented data based on year of occurrence.[1,2] This year ONS has decided to base the database of deaths involving *C. difficile,* from which this report is compiled, on the annual files of death registrations rather than death occurrences. This follows the consultation on mortality outputs carried out by ONS during 2007 which recommended basing the majority of mortality outputs on registrations.[3,4] The shift to reporting on registrations makes little difference to the number of certificates recording *C. difficile* in earlier years, with a maximum change of 50 deaths, and a minimum of zero. Data for 1999 were always presented based on deaths registered in that year and these remain as previously published.

Background

This report examines trends in deaths that involved *C. difficile* as a contributory factor for 1999 and 2001 to 2006. *C. difficile* is a spore forming bacterium found naturally in the gut of a small proportion (around 3 per cent)[5] of the healthy adult population. *C. difficile* can cause diarrhoea, ranging from a mild disturbance to very severe illness with ulceration and bleeding from the colon (colitis), and perforation of the intestine leading to peritonitis, which can be fatal.[6] *C. difficile* disease occurs when normal, healthy intestinal bacteria are subdued by the use of antibiotics. This allows *C. difficile* to flourish in the gut and produce a toxin that causes diarrhoea.

Box One explains the terms used in this report.

Box one

Glossary of Terms

Clostridium difficile *(C. difficile)*: is a spore forming bacterium which is present as one of the 'normal' bacteria in the gut of up to 3 per cent of healthy adults. It is much more common in babies - up to two thirds of infants may have *C. difficile* in the gut, where it rarely causes problems. People over the age of 65 years are more susceptible to contracting infection.

Diarrhoea: Diarrhoea occurs when the lining of the small or large intestine is irritated. *C. difficile* toxins are a major cause of antibiotic-associated diarrhoea. This leads to increased water being passed in the stools. Acute diarrhoea is usually caused by a viral infection or a bacterial infection and affects almost everyone from time to time. It usually clears up in a couple of days and is not serious. However it can be serious in babies and the frail and elderly, because of the risk of dehydration.

Pseudomembranous colitis (PMC): is a complication of antibiotic therapy often caused by *C. difficile* infection. PMC causes severe inflammation in areas of the colon (large intestine). Almost any antibiotic can cause PMC by upsetting the balance of the bacteria in the gut and intestines.

Age-standardised rate: Directly age-standardised rates make allowances for differences in the age structure of the population, over time and between sexes. The age-standardised rate for a particular disease is that which would have occurred if the observed age-specific rates for the disease had applied in a given standard population. In this report we have used the **European Standard Population**. This is a hypothetical population standard, which is the same for both males and females allowing standardised rates to be compared over time, and between males and females.

Sources: Health Protection Agency; NHS Direct Online; Office for National Statistics

C. difficile was first described in the 1930s,[7] but it was not identified as the cause of pseudomembranous colitis following antibiotic therapy until the late 1970s.[8, 9, 10, 11] Patients who have been treated with broad spectrum antibiotics (those affecting a wide range of bacteria, including intestinal bacteria) are at the greatest risk of *C. difficile* associated disease. In addition to antibiotic exposure, the risk of contracting *C. difficile* is also raised for elderly patients, those who have recently had gastrointestinal surgery, those who have a long length of stay in healthcare settings, and those who have a serious underlying illness or a condition that compromises their immune system.[12, 13] Patients are also at risk of developing *C. difficile* disease when there are outbreaks in hospitals. Poor infection control is also an important risk factor.

A 2003 Department of Health report addresses actions that should be taken to reduce levels of healthcare associated infections.[14] A report on *C. difficile* and actions to reduce the chances of outbreaks was released by the Health Protection Agency (HPA) in February 2003.[15] In January 2004, the HPA began to carry out a mandatory reporting scheme for all cases of *C. difficile* in people aged 65 years and over. In April 2007, the scheme was expanded to all patients aged two years and over.[16] Results from the surveillance scheme are published in the *Mandatory Surveillance of Healthcare Associated Infection Report, 2007* on the HPA website.[17]

The number of deaths due to *C. difficile* is difficult to estimate. Trends in mortality are normally monitored using the underlying cause of death (the disease which initiated the train of events leading directly to death). *C. difficile* and other infections that are often hospital-acquired, such as MRSA, are often not the underlying cause of death. Those who die with *C. difficile* are usually patients who were already very ill and it may be their existing illness, rather than *C. difficile*, which is designated as the underlying cause of death. There is therefore an interest in the number of deaths where *C. difficile* contributed to the death – only conditions which contribute directly to the death should be recorded on the medical certificate of cause of death (death certificate). Results presented in this report identify those deaths where the underlying cause was *C. difficile* and those where it was mentioned on the death certificate as a contributory factor.

Methods

Identification of deaths involving *Clostridium difficile*

All deaths are coded by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) according to the International Classification of Diseases (ICD) supplied by the World Health Organization. In the Tenth Revision (ICD-10), used by ONS from 2001 onwards, there is a specific code (A04.7) for 'Enterocolitis due to *Clostridium difficile*'. While this code identifies the vast majority of deaths involving *C. difficile*, a small number of *C. difficile*-related deaths are not captured by this code alone. Since 1993 ONS has stored the text of death certificates on a database, in addition to all the ICD codes relating to causes identified on the death certificate. This means that it is possible to identify records where *C. difficile* is mentioned, but is not coded under the specific ICD-10 code.

In addition to extracting all deaths related to the specific A04.7 ICD-10 code, deaths mentioning a number of other ICD categories to which diseases including *C. difficile* could be coded were also extracted. The text of these records was searched manually for mentions of *Clostridium difficile, C. difficile* or pseudomembranous colitis. In the Ninth Revision of the ICD (ICD-9) there is no specific code for 'enterocolitis due to *Clostridium difficile*'. Identifying deaths involving *C. difficile* would therefore require extensive text searching of a large number of deaths certificates. The ICD-10 codes used to select deaths from 2001 onwards to search manually are shown in Table 1. All deaths registered in 1999 in England and Wales have been coded to both ICD-9 and ICD-10, to enable comparison between the two revisions. Deaths registered in 1999, identified from their ICD-10 codes as involving *C. difficile*, are also included in this report. Data for 2000 are not available as death certificates were not dual coded in this year and therefore only include ICD-9 codes.

Since 1986, ONS has used the internationally recommended death certificate for neonatal deaths. This means that these deaths cannot be assigned an underlying cause of death.[18] However, as the data for this report were based on all mentions of *C. difficile* or pseudomembranous colitis, neonates have been included. Neonatal deaths were extracted in the same way as described above for post-neonatal deaths.

Deaths with an underlying cause of *C. difficile* were identified by selecting those deaths with a mention of *C. difficile* or pseudomembranous colitis that also had one of the underlying causes of death noted in Table 1.

Derivation of place of death categories

The place of death categories used in this analysis have been derived from three items of information recorded by ONS (Table 2). First,

Table 1 Specific and non-specific ICD-10 codes related to *Clostridium difficile*

Specific codes[1]	Non-specific codes[1]
A04.7 (Enterocolitis due to *Clostridium difficile*)	A05.8 (Other specified bacterial food borne intoxications)
	A41.4 (Septicaemia due to anaerobes (Excludes: gas gangrene)
	A48.0 (Gas gangrene: Clostridial; cellulites, myoncrosis)
	A49.8 (Other bacterial infections of unspecified site)
	P36.5 (Sepsis of newborne due to anaerobes)

1 Codes used to identify deaths where *C. difficile* was the underlying cause of death (on deaths where *C. difficile* was mentioned): A04.7, A09, A41.4, and A49.8

Table 2 Derivation of place of death classification

Place of death classification	Communal Establishment	Establishment type	NHS Indicator
Own home	Home	:	:
NHS general hospital	Communal Establishment Code	General hospital or Multi-function site	NHS
Non-NHS general hospital		General hospital or Multi-function site	Non-NHS
Hospice		Hospice	
NHS nursing home		Homes for the chronic sick or Medical nursing home	NHS
Non-NHS nursing home		Homes for the chronic sick, Medical nursing home, Private nursing home or Private nursing home (aged)	Non-NHS
Private residential home		Residential home (private)	Non-NHS
Local Authority residential home		Residential home (local authority)	NHS
Other places	Elsewhere	All other codes	:

: not applicable

Table 3 Number of death certificates with *Clostridium difficile* mentioned and as the underlying cause, 1999 and 2001–06

England and Wales

	1999	2000[1]	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	Percentage change 1999 to 2006
England and Wales[2]									
Certificates mentioning *C. difficile*	975	–	1,214	1,416	1,804	2,238	3,757	6,480	*565*
Certificates where *C. difficile* was the underlying cause of death	531	–	693	754	968	1,229	2,063	3,490	*557*
Percentage of mentions selected as underlying cause	*54*	–	*57*	*53*	*54*	*55*	*55*	*54*	
England									
Certificates mentioning *C. difficile*	918	–	1,149	1,325	1,720	2,146	3,648	6,301	*586*
Certificates where *C. difficile* was the underlying cause of death	499	–	663	706	922	1,172	1,998	3,393	*580*
Percentage of mentions selected as underlying cause	*54*	–	*58*	*53*	*54*	*55*	*55*	*54*	
Wales									
Certificates mentioning *C. difficile*	56	–	64	89	83	88	104	170	*204*
Certificates where *C. difficile* was the underlying cause of death	31	–	29	47	46	54	61	93	*200*
Percentage of mentions selected as underlying cause	*55*	–	*45*	*53*	*55*	*61*	*59*	*55*	

1 Data for 2000 are not presented, see methods section.
2 England and Wales data include non-residents who died in England and Wales. Data for England and Wales separately exclude deaths of non-residents.

the communal establishment code distinguishes between deaths in communal establishments (which are given a code specific to the particular institution) and those at home or occurring elsewhere. Second, the establishment type code classifies communal establishments into different types (for example, hospital, hospice, local authority residential home). Lastly, the NHS indicator code shows whether the establishment was NHS or non-NHS funded.

Results

Number of deaths where *Clostridium difficile* contributed to the death or was the underlying cause of death

The number of death certificates mentioning *C. difficile* increased each year in England and Wales between 1999 and 2006 (Table 3 and Figure 1). Mentions of *C. difficile* on death certificates increased from 975 in 1999 to 6,480 in 2006. Overall the number of deaths with a mention of *C. difficile* was 6.6 times higher in 2006 than it was in 1999. The number of certificates recording *C. difficile* increased by 72 per cent between 2005 and 2006.

Among deaths with a mention of *C. difficile*, the percentage for which it was the underlying cause was similar (around 55 per cent) in each year (Table 3).

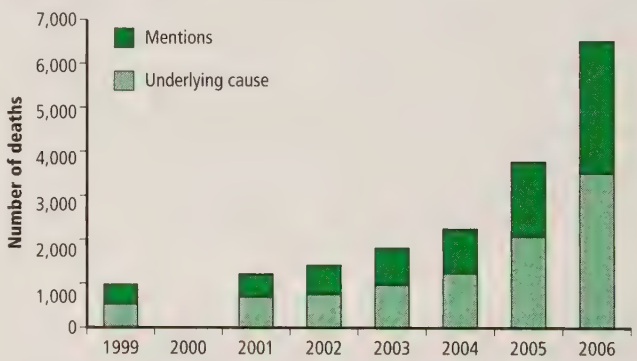
Mortality rates for all deaths mentioning *Clostridium difficile*

Age-standardised rates for deaths involving *C. difficile* increased by around six times between 1999 and 2006, from 11.4 to 65.5 per million population among males, and from 10.7 to 64.2 per million population among females (Table 4). Overall, male and females rates for deaths involving *C. difficile* were very similar in each year (Figure 2).

Most of the deaths involving *C. difficile* occurred among older people. Mortality rates in specific age groups for England and Wales are shown in Table 5. In the 85 and over age group, there were 1,471 and 1,458 deaths per million population for males and females respectively in the period 2002 to 2006. This compares with 0.1 and 0.5 deaths per million population, for males and females respectively, in the under 45 age group (Table 5).

Figure 1 Number of death certificates mentioning *Clostridium difficile*, by whether it was the underlying cause of death, 1999–2006

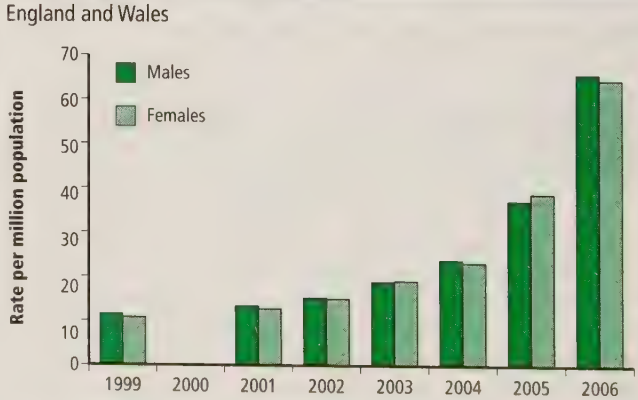
England and Wales



Data for 2000 are not presented, see methods section.

Figure 2 Age-standardised mortality rates for *Clostridium difficile* by sex, 1999–2006

England and Wales



Data for 2000 are not presented, see methods section.

Table 4 Age-standardised mortality rates for *Clostridium difficile* by sex, 1999 and 2001–06

England and Wales

Rate per million population

	1999	2000[1]	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	Percentage change 1999 to 2006
England and Wales[2]									
Males	11.4	–	13.3	15.2	18.8	23.7	37.0	65.5	*474*
Females	10.7	–	12.7	15.0	19.0	23.1	38.6	64.2	*500*
England									
Males	11.6	–	13.4	15.0	19.1	24.1	38.3	68.0	*487*
Females	10.6	–	12.8	15.0	19.2	23.5	39.8	66.2	*525*
Wales									
Males	9.5	–	12.2	17.9	13.8	16.2	16.2	23.3	*146*
Females	11.6	–	10.4	15.2	15.8	15.7	19.8	31.7	*173*

1 Data for 2000 are not presented, see methods section.
2 England and Wales data include non-residents who died in England and Wales. Data for England and Wales separately exclude deaths of non-residents.

Table 5 Age-specific mortality rates for *Clostridium difficile* by sex, 2002–06

England and Wales

Rate per million population

Age group	England and Wales[1]		England		Wales	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
Under 45	0.1	0.5	0.1	0.4	0.0	1.0
45–54	3.0	3.1	3.0	3.2	2.1	2.1
55–64	12.4	12.9	12.5	13.4	9.9	5.4
65–74	74.6	68.9	77.6	69.9	28.2	48.0
75–84	389.5	397.2	403.9	408.3	163.5	222.3
85 and over	1,470.9	1,457.8	1,498.8	1,494.3	983.1	860.0

1 England and Wales data include non-residents who died in England and Wales. Data for England and Wales separately exclude deaths of non-residents.

Place of death

Death certificates rarely specify the place where an infection was acquired. However, the place of death is recorded. Between 2002 and 2006, deaths involving *C. difficile* made up 0.60 per cent of all deaths in England and Wales (Table 6). Deaths involving *C. difficile* made up 0.99 per cent and 0.86 per cent of all deaths in NHS general hospitals and NHS nursing homes respectively.

The majority of deaths in England and Wales occur in hospital (56 per cent of all deaths between 2002 and 2006 occurred in NHS general hospitals). We would therefore expect the majority of *C. difficile* deaths to also occur in hospital. Many deaths in hospital will have been to patients who were admitted because they were already seriously ill with another condition. In England and Wales, over the period 2002 to 2006, 92 per cent of deaths that mentioned *C. difficile* occurred in NHS general hospitals.

Table 6 Number of deaths mentioning *Clostridium difficile* by place of death, compared to all causes of death, 2002–06

England and Wales

	All cause number of deaths	Number of deaths	Percentage of all *C. difficile* deaths	*C. difficile* as a percentage of all deaths in the establishment
England and Wales[1]				
Own home	478,915	117	*0.7*	*0.02*
NHS general hospital	1,467,753	14,502	*92.4*	*0.99*
Non-NHS general hospital	12,783	22	*0.1*	*0.16*
Hospice	117,422	48	*0.3*	*0.04*
NHS nursing home	13,179	113	*0.7*	*0.86*
Non-NHS nursing home	237,563	331	*2.1*	*0.14*
Private residential home	139,710	129	*0.8*	*0.09*
Local Authority residential home	35,570	48	*0.3*	*0.13*
Other places	101,454	385	*2.5*	*0.38*
Total	2,604,349	15,695	*100.0*	*0.60*
England				
Own home	447,603	116	*0.8*	*0.03*
NHS general hospital	1,367,015	13,997	*92.5*	*1.02*
Non-NHS general hospital	11,980	20	*0.1*	*0.16*
Hospice	113,529	47	*0.3*	*0.04*
NHS nursing home	13,074	112	*0.7*	*0.85*
Non-NHS nursing home	224,249	319	*2.1*	*0.14*
Private residential home	132.973	125	*0.8*	*0.09*
Local Authority residential home	33,491	48	*0.3*	*0.14*
Other places	91,726	356	*2.4*	*0.38*
Total	2,435,640	15,140	*100.0*	*0.62*
Wales				
Own home	31,229	1	*0.2*	*0.00*
NHS general hospital	96,913	487	*91.2*	*0.50*
Non-NHS general hospital	296	0	*0.0*	*0.00*
Hospice	3,754	1	*0.2*	*0.03*
NHS nursing home	99	1	*0.2*	*1.01*
Non-NHS nursing home	13,122	12	*2.2*	*0.09*
Private residential home	6,706	4	*0.7*	*0.06*
Local Authority residential home	2,074	0	*0.0*	*0.00*
Other places	8,493	28	*5.2*	*0.33*
Total	162,686	534	*100.0*	*0.33*

1 England and Wales data include non-residents who died in England and Wales. Data for England and Wales separately exclude deaths of non-residents.

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Report:

Deaths involving MRSA: England and Wales, 1993–2006

Introduction

This report presents the latest figures from the Office for National Statistics (ONS) database of deaths where meticillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) was mentioned as a contributory factor. It contains new data for deaths registered in 2006 and data for 1993 to 2005 are provided on the same basis for comparison purposes.

Changes in this report

For the first time, data in this report are based on deaths registered in each calendar year. Previous reports have presented data based on year of occurrence.[1, 2, 3, 4] This year ONS has decided to base the database of deaths involving MRSA, from which this report is compiled, on the annual files of death registrations rather than death occurrences. This follows the consultation on mortality outputs carried out by ONS during 2007, which recommended basing the majority of mortality outputs on registrations.[5, 6] The shift to reporting on registrations makes little difference to the number of certificates recording MRSA in earlier years, with a maximum change of 30 deaths, and a minimum of zero.

Background

This report examines trends from 1993 to 2006 in deaths that involved MRSA as a contributory factor. *Staphylococcus aureus* (*S. aureus*) is a type of common bacteria that may be resistant to meticillin and other antibiotics usually used to treat *S. aureus*. Box One explains the terms used in this report.

MRSA was first isolated in 1961, the same year that the antibiotic meticillin was first used. MRSA remained at low levels in the UK until 1992.[7] Since then both the number of invasive infections caused by MRSA and the proportion of all *S. aureus* infections that are meticillin-resistant have been increasing.[8] Previous analysis of death certificates found that MRSA is increasingly mentioned on death certificates in England and Wales.[1, 2, 3, 4, 9] Mortality rates for deaths involving MRSA increased more than 15-fold during the period 1993 to 2002; this increase was thought unlikely to be due solely to an improvement in reporting.[1] Those who die with MRSA are often already very ill and vulnerable to infection. A 2003 Department of Health report addressed actions that should be taken to reduce levels of healthcare associated infections.[10]

Box one

Glossary of Terms

Staphylococcus aureus (*S. aureus*): This is a common germ that lives completely harmlessly on the skin and in the nose of about one third of people. It is more common on skin that is broken, for example, by a cut or sore. People who have *S. aureus* on, or in, their bodies but who are unharmed by it are described as **colonised**. *S. aureus* can cause problems when it gets the opportunity to enter the body. This is more likely to happen in people who are already unwell.

Meticillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA): This is a variety of *S. aureus* that is resistant to meticillin, and some of the other antibiotics that are usually used to treat *S. aureus*. This sometimes makes it more difficult to treat MRSA infections.

Age-standardised rate: Directly age-standardised rates make allowances for differences in the age structure of the population, over time and between sexes. The age-standardised rate for a particular disease is that which would have occurred if the observed age-specific rates for the disease had applied in a given standard population. In this report we have used the **European Standard Population**. This is a hypothetical population standard, which is the same for both males and females allowing standardised rates to be compared for each sex, and between males and females.

Sources: Health Protection Agency; Office for National Statistics

The true number of deaths due to MRSA is difficult to estimate. Trends in mortality are normally monitored using the underlying cause of death (the disease which initiated the train of events leading directly to death). However MRSA, and other healthcare associated infections, are not often the underlying cause of death. Those who die with MRSA are usually patients who were already very ill and it is their existing illness, rather than MRSA, which is often designated as the underlying cause of death. There is therefore an interest in the number of deaths where MRSA

contributed to the death – only conditions which contribute directly to the death should be recorded on the death certificate. Results presented in this report identify deaths where the underlying cause was MRSA and also where MRSA was not the underlying cause but was a contributory factor in the death.

Method

All deaths are coded by the ONS according to the International Classification of Diseases (ICD) supplied by the World Health Organization. There are currently no codes in the ICD for antibiotic resistance. However, since 1993 ONS has stored the text of death certificates on a database, along with all the ICD coding relating to causes identified on the death certificate. This means that it is possible to identify diseases which do not have their own specific ICD codes, such as MRSA, by manually searching the text of the death certificate.

Identification of *Staphylococcus aureus* and MRSA

The codes used to select deaths to search manually were as used in previous analyses.[1, 2, 3, 4] The codes used in this analysis for both ICD-9 and ICD-10 are identified in Tables 1 and 2. ICD-9 codes were used for the years 1993 to 2000; ICD-10 codes were used from 2001 onwards. Initially all deaths which had a code which specifically related to *Staphylococcus* or *Staphylococcus aureus* mentioned on the death certificate were extracted from the database. The text of these certificates was then searched manually to identify *S. aureus* and MRSA. The codes used to identify these deaths are given in Table 1.

In addition, all deaths which had non-specific codes (that is, one which could include a *Staphylococcal* or an *S. aureus* infection but could also include other infections) mentioned anywhere on the death certificate were extracted. They were then searched manually to identify both *S. aureus* and MRSA. The codes used to identify these deaths are given in Table 2.

Since 1986 ONS has used the internationally recommended death certificate for neonatal deaths. This means that these deaths cannot be assigned an underlying cause of death.[11] However, as the data were based on all mentions of *S. aureus* and MRSA, neonates have been included. Neonatal deaths were extracted in the same way as described above for post-neonatal deaths.

Table 1 Codes specifically relating to *Staphylococcus* infection, ICD-9 and ICD-10 equivalents[1]

ICD-9	ICD-10
005.0 (staphylococcal food poisoning)	A05.0 (food borne staphylococcal intoxication)
038.1 (staphylococcal septicaemia)	A41.0-A41.2 (septicaemia due to *staphylococcus aureus*/other specified staphylococcus/ unspecified staphylococcus)
041.1 (staphylococcus)	A49.0 (staphylococcal infection, unspecified) B95.6-B95.8 (*staphylococcus aureus*/other staphylococcus/unspecified staphylococcus as the cause of diseases classified to other chapters)
320.3 (staphylococcal meningitis)	G00.3 (staphylococcal meningitis)
482.4 (pneumonia due to staphylococcus)	J15.2 (pneumonia due to staphylococcus)
	L00 (staphylococcal scalded skin syndrome)
	M00.0 (staphylococcal arthritis and polyarthritis)
	P23.2 (congenital pneumonia due to staphylococcus)
	P36.2 (sepsis of newborn due to *staphylococcus aureus*)

1 blank = no equivalent code.

Table 2 Codes related to infection, but not specifically *Staphylococcus*, ICD-9 and ICD-10 equivalents[1]

ICD-9	ICD-10
008.4 (other specified bacteria)	A04.8 (other specified bacterial intestinal infections)
	A38 (scarlet fever)
	A48.3 (toxic shock syndrome)
	G06.1 (intraspinal abscess and granuloma)
	G04.2 (bacterial meningoencephalitis and meningomyelitis, not elsewhere classified)
	I30.1 (infective pericarditis)
	I38 (endocarditis, valve unspecified)
	J03.8 (acute tonsillitis due to other specified organisms)
	J86 (pyothorax)
	K12.2 (cellulitis and abscess of mouth)
	K14.0 (glossitis)
	L03 (cellulitis)
	L08.9 (local infection of skin and subcutaneous tissue, unspecified)
	M60.0 (infective myositis)
	M86 (osteomyelitis)
	M46.2 (osteomyelitis of vertebra)
	M71.1 (other infective bursitis)
	N39.0 (urinary tract infection, site not specified)
	T80.2 (infections following infusion, transfusion and therapeutic injection)
	T81.4 (infection following a procedure, not elsewhere classified)
	T82.6 (infection and inflammatory reaction due to cardiac valve prosthesis)
	T82.7 (infection and inflammatory reaction due to other cardiac and vascular devices, implants and grafts)
	T83.5 (infection and inflammatory reaction due to prosthetic device, implant and graft in urinary system)
	T83.6 (infection and inflammatory reaction due to prosthetic device, implant and graft in genital tract)
	T84.5 (infection and inflammatory reaction due to internal joint prosthesis)
	T84.6 (infection and inflammatory reaction due to internal fixation device [any site])
	T84.7 (infection and inflammatory reaction due to other internal orthopaedic prosthetic devices, implants and grafts)
	T85.7 (infection and inflammatory reaction due to other internal prosthetic devices, implants and grafts)
	T87.4 (infection of amputation stump)
	T88.0 (infection following immunization)

1 blank = no equivalent code.

Deaths with an underlying cause of *S. aureus* were identified by selecting those deaths with a mention of *S. aureus* that also had one of the causes of death listed in Table 1 or Table 2 as the underlying cause. The same procedure was followed for the identification of those deaths with MRSA as the underlying cause. As in previous MRSA reports,[2, 3, 4] the code A41.9 (septicaemia, unspecified) was used to select the underlying cause of death. This is because this code is sometimes selected as the underlying cause of death when MRSA septicaemia is mentioned on the death certificate.

Derivation of place of death categories

The place of death categories used in this analysis have been derived from three items of information recorded by ONS (Table 3). First, the communal establishment code distinguishes between deaths in communal establishments (which are given a code specific to the particular institution) and those at home or occurring elsewhere. Second, the establishment type code classifies communal establishments into different types (for example, hospital, hospice, local authority residential home). Lastly, the NHS indicator code shows whether the establishment was NHS or non-NHS funded.

Table 3 **Derivation of Place of Death Classification**

Place of death classification	Communal Establishment	Establishment type	NHS Indicator
Own home	Home	:	:
NHS general hospital	Communal Establishment Code	General hospital or Multi-function site	NHS
Non-NHS general hospital		General hospital or Multi-function site	Non-NHS
Hospice		Hospice	
NHS nursing home		Homes for the chronic sick or Medical nursing home	NHS
Non-NHS nursing home		Homes for the chronic sick, Medical nursing home, Private nursing home or Private nursing home (aged)	Non-NHS
Private residential home		Residential home (private)	Non-NHS
Local Authority residential home		Residential home (local authority)	NHS
Other places	Elsewhere	All other codes	:

: not applicable

Table 4 **Number of death certificates with *Staphylococcus aureus* and MRSA mentioned and as the underlying cause, 1993–2006**

England and Wales

	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
England and Wales[1]														
Mentions														
All *Staphylococcus aureus*	430	448	607	743	781	860	964	1,142	1,204	1,215	1,416	1,599	2,099	2,150
MRSA	51	90	198	298	386	409	480	666	731	794	968	1,138	1,649	1,652
Percentage of *S. aureus* mentions that were MRSA	*12*	*20*	*33*	*40*	*49*	*48*	*50*	*58*	*61*	*65*	*68*	*71*	*79*	*77*
Underlying cause[2]														
All *Staphylococcus aureus*	155	148	192	234	242	258	272	340	437	409	491	547	642	707
MRSA	15	18	70	78	103	116	128	191	258	246	322	357	465	519
Percentage of mentions selected as underlying cause														
All *Staphylococcus aureus*	*36*	*33*	*32*	*31*	*31*	*30*	*28*	*30*	*36*	*34*	*35*	*34*	*31*	*33*
MRSA	*29*	*20*	*35*	*26*	*27*	*28*	*27*	*29*	*35*	*31*	*33*	*31*	*28*	*31*
England														
Mentions														
All *Staphylococcus aureus*	398	415	554	674	721	799	890	1,053	1,130	1,139	1,323	1,514	1,960	2,025
MRSA	49	76	175	259	353	371	429	605	681	736	902	1,069	1,536	1,556
Percentage of *S. aureus* mentions that were MRSA	*12*	*18*	*32*	*38*	*49*	*46*	*48*	*57*	*60*	*65*	*68*	*71*	*78*	*77*
Underlying cause[2]														
All *Staphylococcus aureus*	140	134	171	209	226	245	250	318	415	388	459	516	596	653
MRSA	14	13	62	64	97	108	111	180	244	229	300	334	432	480
Percentage of mentions selected as underlying cause														
All *Staphylococcus aureus*	*35*	*32*	*31*	*31*	*31*	*31*	*28*	*30*	*37*	*34*	*35*	*34*	*30*	*32*
MRSA	*29*	*17*	*35*	*25*	*27*	*29*	*26*	*30*	*36*	*31*	*33*	*31*	*28*	*31*
Wales														
Mentions														
All *Staphylococcus aureus*	27	28	44	62	59	57	73	85	72	75	91	84	134	119
MRSA	2	14	20	37	33	37	50	59	50	58	65	68	109	95
Percentage of *S. aureus* mentions that were MRSA	*7*	*50*	*45*	*60*	*56*	*65*	*68*	*69*	*69*	*77*	*71*	*81*	*81*	*80*
Underlying cause[2]														
All *Staphylococcus aureus*	13	12	20	24	15	13	22	21	22	21	31	31	46	52
MRSA	1	5	8	13	6	8	17	11	14	17	22	23	33	39
Percentage of mentions selected as underlying cause														
All *Staphylococcus aureus*	*48*	*43*	*45*	*39*	*25*	*23*	*30*	*25*	*31*	*28*	*34*	*37*	*34*	*44*
MRSA	*50*	*36*	*40*	*35*	*18*	*22*	*34*	*19*	*28*	*29*	*34*	*34*	*30*	*41*

1 England and Wales data include non-residents who died in England and Wales. Data for England and Wales separately exclude deaths of non-residents.

2 Excludes neonatal deaths.

Figure 1 Number of death certificates mentioning *Staphylococcus aureus* by meticillin resistance, 1993–2006

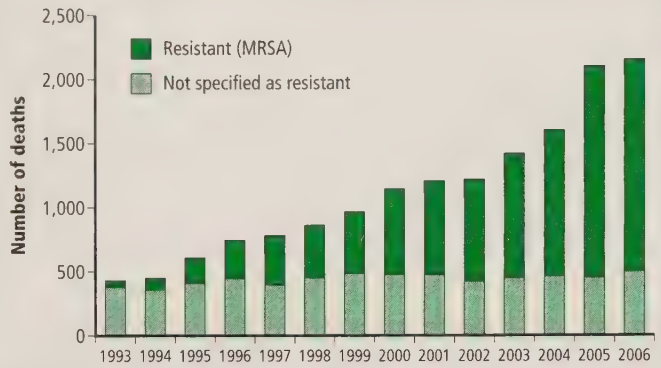
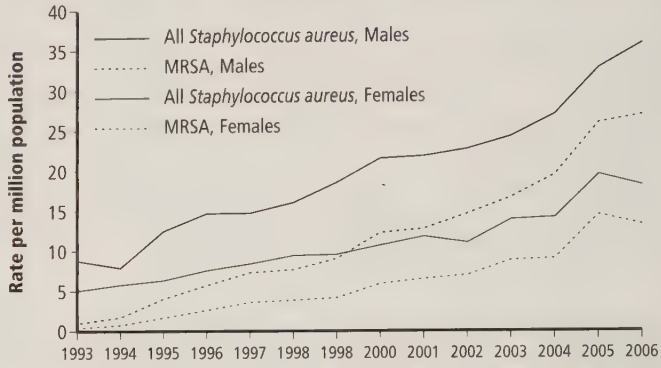


Figure 2 Age-standardised mortality rates for *Staphylococcus aureus* and MRSA, 1993–2006



Results

Number of deaths where *Staphylococcus aureus* or MRSA contributed to the death or was the underlying cause of death

The number of death certificates mentioning *Staphylococcus aureus* infection increased each year from 1993 to 2006 in England and Wales from 430 to 2,150 (Table 4). There has been a considerable increase in the percentage of these deaths where MRSA was specified. In 1993, 12 per cent of deaths mentioning *S. aureus* specified meticillin resistance. By 2006 this had risen to 77 per cent. The number of deaths mentioning MRSA increased from 51 to 1,652. Figure 1 shows that the increase in the number of death certificates specifying MRSA accounts for most of the increase in deaths where *S. aureus* was mentioned. However, between 2005 and 2006 mentions of MRSA on death certificates stayed stable, increasing by only three deaths, from 1,649 to 1,652 (Table 4).

The proportion of mentions of *S. aureus* or MRSA that were also selected as the underlying cause of death has ranged from one fifth to one third between 1993 and 2006 (Table 4). Increases in the numbers of deaths where *S. aureus* or MRSA were selected as the underlying cause therefore reflects the increase in deaths where *S. aureus* or MRSA was mentioned as a contributing factor in the death.

Mortality rates for all deaths mentioning *Staphylococcus aureus* or MRSA

Age-standardised rates for deaths involving *S. aureus* and MRSA were highest in males throughout the period 1993 to 2006 (Figure 2). Rates for *S. aureus* among both males and females increased, by 4.0 and 3.5 times respectively over this period, to 35.7 deaths per million population in males and 18.0 per million in females in 2006 (Table 5).

Rates for deaths involving MRSA in males increased by 27 times from 1.0 per million population in 1993 to 26.8 in 2006. In females, rates increased by 33 times from 0.4 to 13.2 per million population over the same period. Between 2005 and 2006, rates among males increased by 4 per cent, with rates among females decreasing by 9 per cent. The fall in female rates represents the first year-on-year decrease in England and Wales as a whole since reporting began.

Most of the deaths involving *S. aureus* or MRSA were in the older age groups. For the combined period 2002 to 2006, age-specific mortality rates for deaths involving MRSA in the 85 and over age group were

Table 5 Age-standardised mortality rates for *Staphylococcus aureus* and MRSA by sex, 1993–2006

England and Wales — Rate per million population

	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
England and Wales[1]														
All *Staphylococcus aureus*, Males	8.8	7.9	12.5	14.7	14.7	16.0	18.5	21.5	21.7	22.6	24.2	26.9	32.6	35.7
All *Staphylococcus aureus*, Females	5.1	5.8	6.4	7.6	8.4	9.4	9.5	10.7	11.7	11.0	13.9	14.1	19.4	18.0
MRSA, Males	1.0	1.7	4.0	5.7	7.3	7.6	9.0	12.2	12.7	14.6	16.6	19.4	25.8	26.8
MRSA, Females	0.4	0.8	1.7	2.6	3.6	3.8	4.1	5.9	6.5	6.9	8.8	9.0	14.4	13.2
England														
All *Staphylococcus aureus*, Males	8.8	7.6	12.1	14.1	14.4	15.9	18.2	20.8	21.7	22.7	24.1	27.1	32.4	35.6
All *Staphylococcus aureus*, Females	4.8	5.9	6.3	7.2	8.2	9.1	9.3	10.5	11.8	10.8	13.8	14.2	19.3	18.1
MRSA, Males	1.0	1.4	3.8	5.2	7.1	7.5	8.5	11.6	12.6	14.4	16.5	19.4	25.6	26.8
MRSA, Females	0.4	0.7	1.6	2.4	3.5	3.5	4.0	5.7	6.5	6.8	8.7	8.9	14.3	13.2
Wales														
All *Staphylococcus aureus*, Males	7.2	9.4	15.4	22.3	17.8	16.3	22.4	29.4	21.7	20.8	25.4	23.7	34.6	33.8
All *Staphylococcus aureus*, Females	7.1	4.2	5.7	10.1	10.8	13.1	12.7	13.5	11.3	12.6	14.1	11.6	19.0	16.0
MRSA, Males	0.0	5.8	7.0	13.5	10.4	9.9	16.0	20.5	15.1	17.0	17.8	19.4	28.2	25.9
MRSA, Females	0.5	1.2	1.8	4.8	4.7	8.0	7.0	9.4	6.6	9.3	10.2	9.1	15.4	12.4

1 England and Wales data include non-residents who died in England and Wales. Data for England and Wales separately exclude deaths of non-residents.

573.4 and 270.8 deaths per million population, for males and females respectively. In the under 45 age group there were 1.0 and 0.7 deaths per million population, for males and females respectively (Table 6).

Place of death

Death certificates rarely specify the place where an infection was acquired. However, the place of death is recorded. Between 2002 and 2006, deaths involving *S. aureus* and MRSA made up 0.33 per cent and 0.24 per cent respectively of all deaths in England and Wales (Table 7). Among deaths that occurred in NHS general hospitals and NHS nursing homes, deaths involving *S. aureus* made up 0.52 per cent and 0.58 per cent of the totals in these institutions respectively. Deaths involving MRSA made up 0.37 and 0.39 per cent of all deaths in NHS general hospitals and NHS nursing homes respectively.

The majority of deaths occur in hospital (56 per cent of all deaths between 2002 and 2006 occurred in NHS general hospitals). We would therefore expect the majority of *S. aureus* and MRSA deaths to also occur in hospital. Many of these deaths in hospital will have been to patients who were admitted because they were already seriously ill with another condition. In England and Wales over the period 2002 to 2006, 90 per cent of deaths that mentioned *S. aureus* and 88 per cent of deaths that mentioned MRSA occurred in NHS general hospitals.

Table 6 Age-specific mortality rates for *Staphylococcus aureus* and MRSA by sex, 2002–06

England and Wales — Rate per million population

Age group	Males		Females	
	All *S. aureus*	MRSA	All *S. aureus*	MRSA
England and Wales[1]				
Under 45	2.5	1.0	2.0	0.7
45–54	11.3	7.1	7.6	5.1
55–64	31.3	20.6	16.5	10.1
65–74	89.9	65.2	50.6	35.2
75–84	299.6	232.3	148.6	110.4
85 and over	705.5	573.4	347.6	270.8
England				
Under 45	2.5	1.0	2.0	0.7
45–54	11.5	7.4	7.6	5.1
55–64	30.7	19.8	16.6	10.0
65–74	89.1	64.5	50.4	34.8
75–84	297.8	230.0	147.7	109.0
85 and over	718.3	582.9	348.9	272.7
Wales				
Under 45	1.9	0.7	1.7	1.2
45–54	5.3	3.2	6.2	5.1
55–64	38.5	31.9	15.0	11.8
65–74	101.8	76.7	50.8	39.5
75–84	326.9	268.9	159.1	128.3
85 and over	497.2	418.1	324.8	237.9

1 England and Wales data include non-residents who died in England and Wales. Data for England and Wales separately exclude deaths of non-residents.

Table 7 Number of deaths mentioning *Staphylococcus aureus* and MRSA by place of death, compared to all causes of death, 2002–06

England and Wales

		S. aureus			MRSA		
	All cause number of deaths	Number of deaths	Percentage of all *S. aureus* deaths	*S. aureus* as a percentage of all deaths in the establishment	Number of deaths	Percentage of all MRSA deaths	MRSA as a percentage of all deaths in the establishment
England and Wales[1]							
Own home	478,915	119	*1.4*	*0.02*	89	*1.4*	*0.02*
NHS general hospital	1,467,753	7,640	*90.1*	*0.52*	5,487	*88.5*	*0.37*
Non-NHS general hospital	12,783	26	*0.3*	*0.20*	19	*0.3*	*0.15*
Hospice	117,422	44	*0.5*	*0.04*	37	*0.6*	*0.03*
NHS nursing home	13,179	77	*0.9*	*0.58*	51	*0.8*	*0.39*
Non-NHS nursing home	237,563	296	*3.5*	*0.12*	284	*4.6*	*0.12*
Private residential home	139,710	110	*1.3*	*0.08*	101	*1.6*	*0.07*
Local Authority residential home	35,570	27	*0.3*	*0.08*	27	*0.4*	*0.08*
Other places	101,454	140	*1.7*	*0.14*	106	*1.7*	*0.10*
Total	2,604,349	8,479	*100.0*	*0.33*	6,201	*100.0*	*0.24*
England							
Own home	447,603	109	*1.4*	*0.02*	80	*1.4*	*0.02*
NHS general hospital	1,367,015	7,167	*90.0*	*0.52*	5,127	*88.4*	*0.37*
Non-NHS general hospital	11,980	26	*0.3*	*0.21*	19	*0.3*	*0.16*
Hospice	113,529	43	*0.5*	*0.04*	36	*0.6*	*0.03*
NHS nursing home	13,074	76	*1.0*	*0.58*	50	*0.9*	*0.38*
Non-NHS nursing home	224,249	282	*3.5*	*0.13*	270	*4.7*	*0.12*
Private residential home	132,973	108	*1.4*	*0.08*	99	*1.7*	*0.07*
Local Authority residential home	33,491	27	*0.3*	*0.08*	27	*0.5*	*0.08*
Other places	91,726	123	*1.5*	*0.13*	91	*1.6*	*0.10*
Total	2,435,640	7,961	*100.0*	*0.33*	5,799	*100.0*	*0.24*

Table 7 continued **Number of deaths mentioning *Staphylococcus aureus* and MRSA by place of death, compared to all causes of death, 2002–06**

England and Wales

		S. aureus			MRSA		
	All cause number of deaths	Number of deaths	Percentage of all *S. aureus* deaths	*S. aureus* as a percentage of all deaths in the establishment	Number of deaths	Percentage of all MRSA deaths	MRSA as a percentage of all deaths in the establishment
Wales							
Own home	31,229	10	*2.0*	*0.03*	9	*2.3*	*0.03*
NHS general hospital	96,913	458	*91.1*	*0.47*	353	*89.4*	*0.36*
Non-NHS general hospital	296	0	*0.0*	*0.00*	0	*0.0*	*0.00*
Hospice	3,754	1	*0.2*	*0.03*	1	*0.3*	*0.03*
NHS nursing home	99	1	*0.2*	*1.01*	1	*0.3*	*1.01*
Non-NHS nursing home	13,122	14	*2.8*	*0.11*	14	*3.5*	*0.11*
Private residential home	6,706	2	*0.4*	*0.03*	2	*0.5*	*0.03*
Local Authority residential home	2,074	0	*0.0*	*0.00*	0	*0.0*	*0.00*
Other places	8,493	17	*3.4*	*0.20*	15	*3.8*	*0.18*
Total	162,686	503	*100.0*	*0.31*	395	*100.0*	*0.24*

1 England and Wales data includes non-residents who died in England and Wales. Data for England and Wales separately exclude deaths of non-residents.

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Annual Update:

Congenital anomaly notifications 2006, England and Wales

Key findings

- There were 6,642 children born in 2006 notified to the National Congenital Anomaly System as having one or more congenital anomalies
- In 2006, 44 per cent of all births in England and Wales were to mothers living in areas covered by a local congenital anomaly register
- The notification rate for areas of England and Wales covered by a local congenital anomaly register was 173.2 per 10,000 live and stillbirths, compared with 43.5 per 10,000 for areas not covered by a local register
- The notification rate for cardiovascular anomalies in areas covered by local registers was over eight times the rate in areas without a local register

Background

The National Congenital Anomaly System (NCAS) was set up in 1964 to monitor the occurrence of congenital anomalies in England and Wales. Reporting of affected registered live and stillbirths to the system is voluntary. The main purpose of NCAS is public health surveillance, but the system also provides the only national data on the number of children born with congenital anomalies. The system is maintained by the Office for National Statistics (ONS).

ONS receives data from two sources: electronically from local congenital anomaly registers for the areas covered by a register, and on paper SD56 forms directly from NHS Trusts in areas without a local register.[1] In 2006 ONS received data from eight local registers. These covered 43 per cent of births in England and all births in Wales (Box One).

The local registers ascertain cases of congenital anomalies from multiple sources including SD56 forms from NHS Trusts, and information from cytogenetic laboratories, neonatal units, and other hospital and community child health services. Cases can be added to NCAS at any time after the birth.

It is recognised that there is under-reporting in NCAS, particularly in the areas not covered by local registers.[2,3] Table 1 shows the numbers and rates of notifications from 1996 to 2006 for England and Wales, the area covered by each local register, and the rest of England. Notification rates for areas now covered by local registers all increased as the registers came into operation; for example, the rate in the South West was 93.7 per 10,000 live and stillbirths in 2002 and rose to 306.7 per 10,000 in 2003, when the South West register began submitting data to NCAS. In 1997 all data submitted to NCAS was on a form SD56; by 2005, 80 per cent of congenital anomaly notifications were for births from areas covered by local congenital anomaly registers. However, only 48 per cent of all births in England and Wales occurred within these areas.

A recent study compared ascertainment of anomalies on NCAS with data on four local English congenital anomaly registers, for births that occurred during the period 1991-1999.[2] This was before those local registers started submitting data to NCAS. The overall ascertainment by NCAS was 40 per cent; ascertainment rates by condition varied from 12 per cent for cardiac defects to 75 per cent for cleft lip. The issue of under-reporting in NCAS in areas not covered by registers in NCAS was also acknowledged in the Chief Medical Officer for England's Annual Reports for 2004 and 2005.[4]

Notifications in 2006

There were 6,642 children born in 2006 notified to NCAS (Table 1). Of these, 5,123 (77 per cent) were born to mothers resident in an area covered by a local congenital anomaly register. The notification rate for these register areas was 173.2 notifications per 10,000 live and stillbirths compared with 43.5 per 10,000 for the parts of England not covered by a local register.

A comparison of notification rates across registers shows that Wales had the highest notification rate in 2006 (275.7 notifications per 10,000 live and stillbirths) and Oxfordshire, Berkshire and Buckinghamshire the lowest (83.3 per 10,000 live and stillbirths).

Tables 2 and 3 show trends in the numbers and rates of notification for areas covered, and areas not covered, by a local register. In these tables a birth is counted as within a register area if the mother was living at a postcode covered by a register at the time of the birth. This is a further improvement on the approach used in Congenital Anomaly Update 2005 which classified areas by whether they were covered by a register in 2005

Box one

Local registers exchanging data electronically with ONS

Year register began sending data	Register
1998	Welsh Congenital Anomaly Register and Information Service (CARIS)
1999	East Midlands & South Yorkshire Congenital Anomaly Register
2000	North Thames (West) Congenital Malformation Register[1]
2000	Merseyside and Cheshire Congenital Anomaly Survey
2002	Wessex Antenatally Detected Anomalies Register (WANDA)[1]
2002	Congenital Anomaly Register for Oxfordshire, Berkshire & Buckinghamshire (CAROBB) (Oxfordshire only prior to 2004)
2003	Northern Congenital Abnormality Register (NorCas)
2003	South West Congenital Anomaly Register

Area coverage of each local congenital anomaly register. Areas are health authorities (1996-2001) and former strategic health authorities (2002-2006) unless otherwise stated. Boundaries used are those in existence at the time of the birth.

East Midlands & South Yorkshire congenital anomaly register comprises of Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire, Northamptonshire (since 2003), Nottinghamshire, South Yorkshire, South Humber (1996–2001), North Lincolnshire PCT (2002 onwards), North East Lincolnshire PCT (2002 onwards). Areas excluded from East Midlands & South Yorkshire register (and England and Wales as a whole) in 2006: South Derbyshire, Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire.

North Thames (West) comprises of Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire, Hillingdon, Barnet, Ealing, Hammersmith and Hounslow, Kensington, Chelsea and Westminster, Brent and Harrow.

Merseyside comprises of Cheshire and Mersey.

Oxford comprises of Oxfordshire, Berkshire (2004 onwards) and Buckinghamshire (2004 onwards).

Wessex comprises of Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Dorset, Salisbury LA (1996–2001), South Wiltshire PCT (2002 onwards).

Northern comprises of Northumberland, Tyne and Wear, County Durham, Tees Valley, North Cumbria (1995–2001), Carlisle PCT (2002 onwards), Eden Valley PCT (2002 onwards), West Cumbria PCT (2002 onwards).

South West comprises of Avon, Cornwall, Devon, Gloucestershire, Somerset, Wiltshire excluding Salisbury LA (1995-2001)/South Wiltshire PCT (2002 onwards).

1 These registers are hospital based. Denominators use area boundaries which are not necessarily exact matches to the areas covered by the registers.

regardless of the date of the child's birth. The earlier approach examined changes in notification rates for fixed geographical areas over time. There is such a large difference between notification rates in register and non-register areas that it is more appropriate to calculate a rate for all areas covered by a register at a particular time point and accept that the geographical area covered by registers changes over time.

The overall notification rate rose slightly in non-register areas between 1996 and 2000; since then it has fallen by over 50 per cent, from a peak of 96.6 per 10,000 live and stillbirths to 43.5 per 10,000 live and stillbirths in 2006.

Comparing rates in register areas between 2005 and 2006 is more complex. The East Midlands & South Yorkshire Register is funded by a levy from participating Primary Care Trusts. In April 2006, several Primary Care Trusts which previously participated in the register decided to withhold funding (Box One). Without funding the register was unable to process data to send to ONS. Figures for 2006 do not include data from these areas, which accounted for four per cent of all live and stillbirths in England and Wales in 2006. This deficiency makes it difficult to compare notification rates in register areas in 2006 with those for earlier years since observed differences may be due to excluding data for these areas rather than true changes over time. In 2005 there were 515 notifications from these areas (40 per cent of all notifications from East Midlands & South Yorkshire Register). When these notifications were excluded from the analysis, the overall notification rate only changed from 197.9 to 198.1 notifications per 10,000 live and stillbirths.

Condition-specific notification rates

There were substantial differences in condition-specific notification rates between areas now covered by local registers and those without a register (Tables 2 and 3 respectively).

The largest difference was for cardiovascular anomalies, where the rate for areas covered by a register in 2006 was over eight times that for areas without a register (39.4 notifications per 10,000 live and stillbirths compared with 4.7 per 10,000 live and stillbirths). Cardiovascular anomalies are not readily apparent at birth and so may not be notified by a doctor or midwife on a SD56 form.[2] The local registers identify anomalies which become evident later in the child's life via alternative sources.

Cleft lip is a congenital anomaly which is highly visible at birth.[2] For this reason notifications to NCAS could be expected to be reasonably complete even for areas not covered by a local register. In 2006 the notification rate for non-register areas was less than half that of register areas (3.2 and 6.6 notifications per 10,000 live and stillbirths respectively). The size of this difference between rates for register and non-register areas for this very visible condition suggests that some cases in non-register areas are not being reported to NCAS.

Other patterns in the data from local congenital anomaly registers only

Congenital anomaly notification rates were highest among children of mothers over 40 years old. In areas covered by congenital anomaly registers the notification rate in 2006 for mothers under 20 years old

Table 1 Congenital anomalies notification rates from registers[1] participating in electronic data transfer to the National Congenital Anomaly System (NCAS), 1996–2006

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006[2]
Number of babies notified											
England and Wales	5,993	5,966	6,821	7,984	8,447	7,949	7,797	8,276	7,785	7,728	6,642
Wales	610	534	**1,552**	**1,379**	**1,421**	**1,383**	**1,309**	**1,259**	**1,188**	**965**	**932**
East Midlands & South Yorkshire	706	816	703	**1,648**	**1,583**	**1,689**	**1,612**	**1,230**	**1,143**	**1,288**	**750**
North Thames (West)	280	281	319	330	**491**	**475**	**440**	**500**	**601**	**848**	**706**
Merseyside	239	216	214	238	**650**	**488**	**370**	**396**	**382**	**378**	**357**
Oxford	40	31	38	44	75	30	**70**	**78**	**268**	**348**	**242**
Wessex	220	228	190	223	189	214	**373**	**334**	**365**	**386**	**395**
Northern	352	309	293	320	282	255	313	**665**	**648**	**618**	**568**
South West	455	442	442	667	567	454	396	**1,353**	**1,389**	**1,346**	**1,173**
Rest of England[3]	3,091	3,109	3,070	3,135	3,189	2,961	2,914	2,461	1,801	1,551	1,519
Percentage of all births in England and Wales covered by a local congenital anomaly register	0	0	5.3	14.4	26.7	25.9	32.0	45.1	48.1	48.1	44.0
Rates per 10,000 live and stillbirths											
England and Wales	91.8	92.3	106.8	127.8	139.1	133.0	130.1	132.4	121.0	119.1	102.9
Wales	174.0	153.9	**461.6**	**427.4**	**451.8**	**449.4**	**431.0**	**398.9**	**365.4**	**294.5**	**275.7**
East Midlands & South Yorkshire	115.2	136.3	118.1	**286.9**	**285.0**	**311.0**	**295.2**	**191.2**	**172.2**	**191.3**	**179.0**
North Thames (West)	56.0	56.4	64.0	66.6	**100.0**	**106.5**	**89.2**	**97.9**	**114.8**	**159.3**	**128.1**
Merseyside	82.3	77.2	77.8	89.6	**251.2**	**194.4**	**149.6**	**153.4**	**144.4**	**142.6**	**130.8**
Oxford	54.6	41.2	50.8	59.6	103.6	42.5	**100.9**	**104.5**	**96.6**	**125.7**	**83.3**
Wessex	75.1	79.2	66.0	80.4	70.6	82.3	**143.6**	**124.0**	**131.7**	**139.0**	**135.7**
Northern	103.9	93.4	91.0	102.9	94.7	87.7	106.5	**219.3**	**207.6**	**195.5**	**173.9**
South West	97.3	95.1	101.6	149.3	132.6	115.2	93.7	**306.7**	**309.9**	**297.6**	**250.0**
Rest of England[3]	85.9	86.9	86.1	90.0	94.1	86.8	86.8	71.7	53.9	46.0	43.5

1 See Box One for details of areas covered by a local register.
2 Figures for 2006 exclude data for some areas which used to be part of East Midlands & South Yorkshire congenital anomaly register.
3 Areas not covered by congenital anomaly registers exchanging data with ONS.
Note: Data in bold indicate the years that the registers have been sending data to NCAS.

Source: National Congenital Anomaly System at 17 October 2007

Table 2 Congenital anomaly notifications, selected conditions, 2000-2006[1]

England and Wales: Register areas[2] — Numbers and rates[3]

	2000		2001		2002		2003		2004		2005		2006[4]	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
All babies notified	4,145	255.9	4,035	260.7	4,174	217.5	5,815	206.5	5,984	193.5	6,177	197.9	5,123	173.2
Babies with a mention of:														
Central nervous system anomalies	208	12.8	198	12.8	251	13.1	280	9.9	354	11.4	336	10.8	274	9.3
Neural tube defects	49	3.0	36	2.3	62	3.2	69	2.5	80	2.6	60	1.9	47	1.6
Anencephalus	10	*0.6*	7	*0.5*	17	*0.9*	19	*0.7*	16	*0.5*	16	*0.5*	10	*0.3*
Spina bifida	32	2.0	21	1.4	38	2.0	43	1.5	53	1.7	33	1.1	33	1.1
Hydrocephalus	56	3.5	37	2.4	47	2.4	52	1.8	64	2.1	78	2.5	76	2.6
Cleft lip with or without cleft palate	117	7.2	135	8.7	146	7.6	219	7.8	241	7.8	255	8.2	196	6.6
Cleft palate	86	5.3	91	5.9	95	4.9	109	3.9	136	4.4	166	5.3	124	4.2
Cardiovascular anomalies	946	58.4	823	53.2	820	42.7	1,365	48.5	1,311	42.4	1,394	44.7	1,167	39.4
Hypospadias and epispadias	268	16.5	300	19.4	267	13.9	385	13.7	387	12.5	442	14.2	403	13.6
Limb reductions	75	4.6	79	5.1	82	4.3	122	4.3	154	5.0	137	4.4	119	4.0
Deformities of feet	303	18.7	341	22.0	329	17.1	395	14.0	393	12.7	429	13.7	343	11.6
Gastroschisis	51	3.1	54	3.5	55	2.9	90	3.2	152	4.9	105	3.4	134	4.5
Down syndrome	167	10.3	165	10.7	165	8.6	275	9.8	361	11.7	372	11.9	309	10.4

1 Figures for 1998 and 1999 are omitted because they would be based on data from only two registers.
2 See Box One for details of areas covered by a local register.
3 Notification rate per 10,000 live and stillbirths.
4 Figures for 2006 exclude data for some areas which used to be part of East Midlands and South Yorkshire congenital anomaly register.
Note: Rates calculated from fewer than 20 anomalies are distinguished by italic type as a warning to the user that their reliability as a measure may be affected by the small number of events.

Source: National Congenital Anomaly System at 17 October 2007

Table 3 Congenital anomaly notifications, selected conditions, 1996, 1997, 2000–2006[1]

England and Wales: Non register areas [2] — Numbers and rates[3]

	1996		1997		2000		2001		2002		2003		2004		2005		2006	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate
All babies notified	5,993	91.8	5,966	92.3	4,302	96.6	3,914	88.4	3,623	88.9	2,461	71.7	1,801	53.9	1,551	46.0	1,519	43.5
Babies with a mention of:																		
Central nervous system anomalies	259	4.0	220	3.4	198	4.4	186	4.2	177	4.3	130	3.8	86	2.6	98	2.9	66	1.9
Neural tube defects	90	1.4	80	1.2	75	1.7	65	1.5	53	1.3	54	1.6	38	1.1	37	1.1	23	0.7
Anencephalus	27	0.4	27	0.4	17	*0.4*	20	0.5	13	*0.3*	14	*0.4*	9	*0.3*	9	*0.3*	6	*0.2*
Spina bifida	61	0.9	48	0.7	48	1.1	39	0.9	34	0.8	41	1.2	25	0.7	24	0.7	14	*0.4*
Hydrocephalus	75	1.1	64	1.0	49	1.1	50	1.1	32	0.8	33	1.0	17	*0.5*	22	0.7	14	*0.4*
Cleft lip with or without cleft palate	421	6.5	379	5.9	277	6.2	236	5.3	217	5.3	146	4.3	120	3.6	96	2.8	112	3.2
Cleft palate	168	2.6	202	3.1	127	2.9	111	2.5	109	2.7	80	2.3	54	1.6	54	1.6	43	1.2
Cardiovascular anomalies	680	10.4	665	10.3	471	10.6	453	10.2	459	11.3	195	5.7	162	4.9	147	4.4	163	4.7
Hypospadias and epispadias	539	8.3	484	7.5	377	8.5	343	7.7	288	7.1	194	5.7	148	4.4	111	3.3	110	3.1
Limb reductions	201	3.1	137	2.1	130	2.9	113	2.6	100	2.5	78	2.3	61	1.8	44	1.3	53	1.5
Deformities of feet	629	9.6	650	10.1	486	10.9	398	9.0	375	9.2	262	7.6	192	5.7	179	5.3	176	5.0
Gastroschisis	98	1.5	90	1.4	67	1.5	59	1.3	61	1.5	40	1.2	46	1.4	27	0.8	25	0.7
Down syndrome	357	5.5	412	6.4	244	5.5	216	4.9	192	4.7	132	3.8	112	3.4	108	3.2	109	3.1

1 Figures for 1998 and 1999 are omitted because corresponding figures for register areas would be based on data from only two registers.
2 See Box One for details of areas covered by a local register.
3 Notification rate per 10,000 live and stillbirths.
Note: Rates calculated from fewer than 20 anomalies are distinguished by italic type as a warning to the user that their reliability as a measure may be affected by the small number of events.
Source: National Congenital Anomaly System at 17 October 2007

was 199.3 per 10,000 live and stillbirths. Mothers aged 30 to 34 had the lowest notification rate (152.9 notifications per 10,000 live and stillbirths) and those aged over 40 years the highest (228.1 per 10,000).

Notification rates were also higher for children who were part of multiple births. In areas covered by local registers the notification rate for children who were part of a multiple birth in 2006 was 203.3 per 10,000 live and stillbirths, compared with 155.9 per 10,000 for singletons. (These figures exclude data for the South West where 15 per cent of records on the database at the time of analysis did not state whether the notification was part of a multiple birth.)

Research[5] linking congenital anomaly notifications to birth registrations between 1997 and 2001 showed that 14 per cent of birth registrations classified as part of a multiple birth were not recorded as such on their congenital anomaly registration. Only 2 per cent of registrations which were singleton births were not recorded as such on NCAS. It is not known whether this systematic bias in NCAS notifications still exists; if so the notification rate for multiple births is likely to be an underestimate.

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Other population and health articles, publications and data

Population Trends 131

Publication March 2008

Planned articles:

- 2006-based national population projections for the United Kingdom and constituent countries
- Fertility assumptions for the 2006-based national population projections
- The proportion of marriages ending in divorce

Health Statistics Quarterly 38

Publication May 2008

Planned articles:

- Geographical variations in premature mortality, England and Wales, 1981–2006
- Social Inequalities in adult male mortality in selected causes of death by the National Statistics Socio-economic Classification, England and Wales, 2001–03
- Cancer incidence and mortality: trends in the United Kingdom and constituent countries between 1993–2004

Reports:

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Forthcoming Annual Reference Volumes:

Title	Planned publication
Cancer statistics registrations 2005 MB1 no 36*	March 2008
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Birth statistics 2006 (FM1 no. 35) (December, available on the National Statistics website at www.statistics.gov.uk/statbase/product.asp?vlnk=5768)
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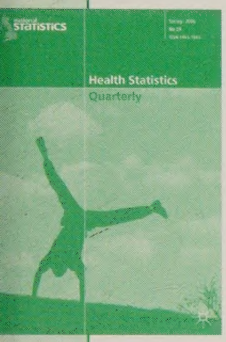

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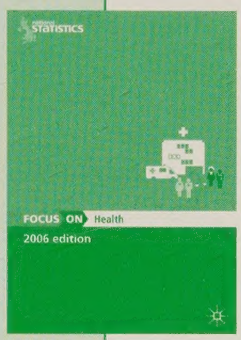

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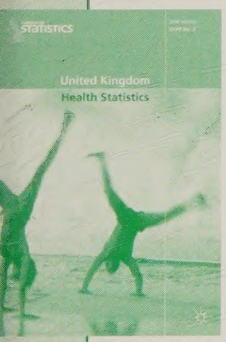

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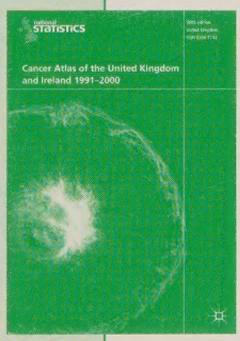

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